

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DUMFRIES

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE
HEALTH AND SANITARY
CONDITIONS OF THE
COUNTY
1953



DUMFRIES:
ROBERT DINWIDDIE & Co. Ltd., PRINTERS and LITHOGRAPHERS

STAFF, 1953

(1) MEDICAL STAFF.

County Medical Officer and Chief Social Welfare Officer.

SAMUEL KENNEDY DRAINER, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers and School Medical Officers.

AGNES F. TURNER, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

A. S. BRODIE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (Resigned 12/1/53).

JAMES D. RAMSAY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

GORDON GRANT LINDSAY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 30/3/53).

(2) DENTAL STAFF.

Chief Dental Officer.

WILLIAM C. S. CHRYSTIE, L.D.S., R.F.P.S. (Glas).

Dental Officers.

AGNES J. DALZIEL, L.D.S.

ROBERT CARSON, L.D.S., R.C.S.

JAMES M. CRINGEAN, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Dental Attendants.

SUSAN R. BROWN, Dental Attendant.

EVELYN AUSTIN, Dental Attendant.

ISABEL M'KNIGHT, Dental Attendant. (Appointed 5/1/53).

MARION JOHNSTONE, Dental Attendant. (Appointed 5/1/53).

(3) LABORATORY STAFF.

Chemists.

WILLIAM WILSON, F.R.I.C. (Public Analyst).

JOHN PARK, B.S.C., F.R.I.C. (Additional Public Analyst).

Laboratory Assistants.

HILARY BETTS.

MARGARET CRAVEN.

(4) COUNTY NURSING STAFF.

County Nursing Superintendent.

JEMIMA EWART.

Health Visitors.

MARGARET B. LOCKHART.

J. TINCH.

ELLEN JOHNSTONE.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

JESSIE M. BERRY.

District Nursing Sisters.

JESSIE M. STEWART	...	...	...	...	Annan.
CHRISTINA MACDONALD	...	...	...	...	Annan.
JANE N. BOYD	...	...	...	...	Canonbie.
CATHERINE P. C. BANNERMAN	...	...	...	...	Carrutherstown.
HELEN BRINDLE	...	...	...	...	Dumfries Landward.
HELEN MACFARLANE	...	...	...	...	Dunscore.
MARY HAMILTON (Resigned 31/8/53)	...	...	...	...	Eskdale.
ELIZABETH CLARK	...	...	...	...	Eskdale.
M. R. MACLEAN (Appointed 18/10/53)	...	...	...	...	Eskdale.
SARAH R. YOUNG	...	...	...	...	Glencairn.
MARGARET GRAY	...	...	...	...	Hoddorn.
ANNIE MACDONALD	...	...	...	...	Kirkconnel.
ELLEN M'NEALL	...	...	...	...	Kirkmahoe.
CATHERINE C. QUINN	...	...	...	...	Lochmaben.
MARGARET M'KELVIE	...	...	...	...	Lockerbie.
MARY J. NUTTER	...	...	...	...	Lockerbie.
ISABEL CONNALL	...	...	...	...	Eastriggs.
EMILY MURRAY	...	...	...	...	Gretna.
MARY PAUL	...	...	...	...	Middlebie.
MARY J. MACDONALD	...	...	...	...	Moffat.
MARY HARKNESS	...	...	...	...	Penpont.
RUTH YOUNG	...	...	...	...	Sanquhar.
M. MENZIES (Resigned 15/2/53)	...	...	...	...	Thornhill.
M. JOHNSTONE (Appointed 1/5/53)	...	...	...	...	Thornhill.
ANNIE M'QUEEN	...	...	...	...	Tinwald.
R. M'DOUGALL	...	...	...	...	Wanlockhead

(5) MILK AND DAIRIES STAFF.

Dairy Inspector.

DONALD MACDONALD, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.

Milk Officers.

STELLA M. BEATON.

ELIZABETH M. HUTTON.

DONALDA MACFARLANE.

(6) LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

ROBERT BELL	...	...	...	Headquarters and Dumfries District.
JOHN JACKSON, Cert. Roy. San.	...	...	...
Assoc. Scot.	...	...	...	Thornhill and Sanquhar Districts.
HARRY W. BRYSON	...	...	...	Annan and Gretna Districts.
JAMES SIMMONS	...	...	...	Lockerbie, Langholm and Moffat Districts.

(7) SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Chief County Sanitary Inspector.

GEORGE WILSON, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot. C.R. (San.) I.

Senior Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

JOHN S. BERRY, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.

Sanitary Inspectors.

WILLIAM HYSLOP, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.

ROBERT MARCHBANK, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.

JAMES MAIR, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.

WILLIAM MOLLISON, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.

IAN TAIT, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.

(8) OFFICE STAFF.

(a) *Health Department.*

JANET L. COLLOW, Supervisor.

MAISIE BOGLE, Typist.

CHRISSIE MURRAY, Typist.

Mrs H. STEELE.

DOROTHY CURRIE, Typist.

MARGARET TURNBULL, Typist.

JESSIE NEWALL, Typist.

MARY HALLIDAY, Typist.

JOYCE BALLANTYNE, Typist. (Resigned 26/3/53).

MARY DINNEL, Typist. (Appointed 23/3/53—Resigned 15/10/53).

(b) *Social Welfare Department.*

MARGARET M'KINNELL, Typist.

(c) *Laboratories.*

AGNES A. I. WADDELL. (Resigned 31/12/53).

To

The Department of Health for Scotland.

The County Council of Dumfries.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I submit herewith my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1953. There is also submitted a Report on the School Health Service for the year ended 31st July, 1953, and a Report by the Chief County Sanitary Inspector on the work carried out by his staff during 1953.

I should like to record my gratitude to members of the County Council for their continued interest and to the staff of the Health Department for their loyal service during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

S. K. DRAINER,
County Medical Officer.

COUNTY BUILDINGS,
DUMFRIES.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28649801>

INDEX.

	Page
VITAL STATISTICS	1
MEDICAL SERVICES—	
Infectious Diseases	4
Tuberculosis	4
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1947—	
Care of Mothers and Young Children	5
Domiciliary Midwifery	7
Health Visiting	9
Home Nursing	9
Vaccination and Immunisation	9
Prevention, Care and After-care	10
Control of Infectious Disease	11
Mental Health	13
SOCIAL WELFARE	13
MILK SUPPLIES	14
CHEMICAL LABORATORY	17
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE	28
SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE	51

REPORT

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population in the County Landward and Small Burghs at the middle of 1953 is as follows :—

(a) County Landward	45,220
(b) Small Burghs—Annan	4,816
Sanquhar	2,487
Lochmaben	1,155
Lockerbie	2,636
Moffat	2,130
Langholm	2,408
Total	60,852

This is an increase of 161 as compared with the estimate for 1952.

Marriages.

Three hundred and eighty marriages were registered, giving a marriage rate of 6.2 per 1000 of the estimated population.

Births.

The births, corrected for transfers, in the County Landward and in the Small Burghs during 1953 were :—

	Total	Male	Female	Illegitimate
(a) County Landward ...	751	399	352	40
(b) Small Burghs :—				
Annan	94	45	49	6
Sanquhar	46	19	27	2
Lochmaben	22	10	12	1
Lockerbie	47	25	22	—
Moffat	21	6	15	1
Langholm	15	9	6	1
Total	996	513	483	51

The birth rate of 16.4 is 0.4 lower than the figure recorded in 1952. The birth rate for Scotland was 17.8. The trend of the birth-rate in Dumfriesshire is shown in the decennial averages since 1881 :—

1881–1890	...	...	...	...	28.38
1891–1900	...	...	...	...	25.34
1901–1910	...	...	...	...	23.43
1911–1920	...	...	...	...	22.04
1921–1930	...	...	...	...	21.50
1931–1940	...	...	...	...	15.96
1941–1950	...	...	...	...	17.99
1951 ...	...	...	...	...	16.7
1952 ...	...	...	...	...	16.6
1953 ...	...	...	...	...	16.4

Illegitimate births amounted to 5.1 per cent. of the total. This is, by far, the lowest figure ever recorded in Dumfriesshire. The corresponding figure for Scotland was 4.7.

Still Births.

There were, after correction for transfer, 25 still-births. giving a still-birth rate of 24 per 1000 total births. The rate for Scotland was 25.

Deaths.

The number of deaths, corrected for transfer, was 672 (322 male, 350 female). The death-rate adjusted for age and sex distribution was 10.0, compared with 10.2 in the previous year. This again is the lowest recorded death-rate in Dumfriesshire. The death-rate for Scotland in 1953 was 11.5.

The decennial averages since the beginning of the century are as follows :—

1901–1910	...	...	...	...	15.24
1911–1920	...	...	...	...	13.09
1921–1930	...	...	...	...	12.0
1931–1940	...	...	...	...	12.6
1941–1950	...	...	...	...	11.6
1951 ...	...	...	...	...	11.3
1952 ...	...	...	...	...	10.2
1953 ...	...	...	...	...	10.0

The causes of death in the various age groups are shown in the following table :

Cause of Death	All Ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. to 11 mths.	1-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85 and over
Respiratory tuberculosis ...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	1	2	...	...
Non-respiratory tuberculosis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Measles ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other infectious diseases ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant tumours ...	117	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	4	19	30	29	31	1
Tumours, non-malignant ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1
Anaemias ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other general diseases ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1
Cerebral haemorrhage ...	117	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	14	42	50	9
Other diseases of nervous system	8	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	3	2	...
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	...
Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease ...	185	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	16	22	59	57	26
Other diseases of heart ...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	2	3
Hypertension with heart disease	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	10	2
Hypertension without heart dis- ease ...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	8	3	...
Other circulatory disease ...	25	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	4	10	7
Influenza ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Pneumonia ...	18	...	4	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	5	4	1
Bronchitis... ..	14	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	4	4	3
Other respiratory diseases	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	2	3	...
Gastric and duodenal ulcer	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...
Appendicitis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Gastritis and duodenitis...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Diarrhoea ...	5	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Cirrhosis of liver ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other diseases of liver ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	2	4	...
Other diseases of genito urinary system ...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	5	1
Puerperal sepsis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases of skin and organs of locomotion ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...
Congenital malformations	6	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis ...	5	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia of new-born	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy ...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Senility ...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	5
Causes ill-defined and unknown	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	3	1
Suicide ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Motor vehicle accidents ...	7	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	1	...	1	1	...
Other violence ...	23	...	2	1	...	...	...	3	1	3	1	1	7	4
Deaths from all causes ...	672	12	10	5	2	...	10	12	20	51	92	181	211	66

Infant Mortality.

Of the 672 deaths, 22 were of children under the age of one year. The infant mortality rate of 22 is the lowest ever recorded in Dumfriesshire. The corresponding rate for Scotland was 31.

The striking decline in the infant mortality rate in Dumfriesshire is shown in the decennial averages since the beginning of the century :—

1901–1910	...	...	...	...	94
1911–1920	...	...	...	...	83
1921–1930	...	...	...	...	72
1931–1940	...	...	...	...	69
1941–1950	...	...	...	...	51
1951	...	...	...	...	45
1952	...	...	...	...	24
1953	...	...	...	...	22

Twelve of the infant deaths took place during the first month of life.

Deaths from Cancer.

There were 117 deaths from cancer (58 males, 59 females) as compared with 112 in 1952. The increasing trend in the cancer death-rate continued.

Deaths from Infectious Diseases.

There were three deaths from infectious disease.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Eight persons died of respiratory tuberculosis and one of non-respiratory tuberculosis. The death-rate for all forms of tuberculosis was 0.15 and the rate for Scotland was 0.26.

The decennial averages for Dumfriesshire since 1900 are as follows :—

1901–1910	...	...	...	...	2.76
1911–1920	...	...	...	...	1.38
1921–1930	...	...	...	...	0.99
1931–1940	...	...	...	...	0.59
1941–1950	...	...	...	...	0.47
1951	...	...	...	...	0.17
1952	...	...	...	...	0.10
1953	...	...	...	...	0.15

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1947

PART III

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

(a) EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

In domiciliary cases, ante-natal care was given by the district nursing sisters at the patients' homes under the general supervision of the family practitioner. During the year such ante-natal care was given to 260 mothers, and 1005 visits were paid to them by the district nursing sisters who subsequently attended the births as maternity nurses.

As in previous years, it was found that almost without exception the mothers who attended the Council's ante-natal clinics at Annan, Langholm and Kelloholm had elected to be confined in hospital. The attendances at the various clinics were as follows :—

Clinic	ANTE-NATAL			POST-NATAL		
	First visits	Subsequent visits	Total	First visits	Subsequent visits	Total
Annan ...	99	339	438	22	89	111
Langholm ...	32	31	63	13	1	14
Kirkconnel	152	537	689	103	13	116
Totals ...	283	907	1190	138	103	241

During 1953 the Council accepted financial responsibility for the maintenance of 7 unmarried mothers who were admitted for confinement to a Mother and Baby Home in Glasgow.

Maternity outfits were issued free of charge to all women being confined at home.

(b) CHILD WELFARE.

There was no change in the arrangements for child welfare except that the child welfare centre at Kelloholm was transferred in May to the Council's clinic premises there.

The attendances at the various clinics are shown in the following table :

C L I N I C	U n d e r 1 y e a r			O v e r 1 y e a r		
	First visits	Subsequent visits	Total	First visits	Subsequent visits	Total
Town Hall, Annan	101	1017	1118	5	163	168
Thomas Hope Hospital, Langholm ...	49	416	465	53	467	520
Masonic Hall, Lockerbie	44	501	545	27	249	276
St. Ninian's Church Hall, Sanquhar ...	118	503	621	11	203	214
Shopping Centre, Kelloholm*	124	970	1094	48	506	554
St. Conal's Church Hall, Kirkconnel ...	20	208	228	20	108	128
Episcopal Hall, Gretna	52	808	860	48	284	332
Nelson Institute, Eastriggs	24	290	314	40	290	330
Catherinefield School, Dumfries	68	115	183	10	11	21
Totals	600	4828	5428	262	2281	2543

Kelloholm Clinic at Shopping Centre as from 28th May, 1953.

(c) CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

As in former years, institutional care was provided when suitable arrangements could not be made at home for prematurely born infants.

(d) DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS.

Welfare foods were distributed from twenty-nine centres in Dumfriesshire. In some cases this distribution was undertaken from child welfare centres and from the offices of the local government officers.

(e) DENTAL CARE.

It has not been possible to undertake the dental care of any priority classes other than children of school age.

2. Domiciliary Midwifery.

There was no alteration during the year in the arrangements for this service.

No infringement of the rule of the Central Midwives Board was noted.

There were no cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14(1) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1951.

The number of births occurring in the area during 1953 was 347. Of these, 260 took place at home and 87 in hospital or private nursing home. The following table shows the nature of attendance at the domiciliary confinement:

	Cases dealt with under Section 23(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947			Other domiciliary cases	Total
	Doctor engaged and present at confinement	Doctor engaged and not present at confinement	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)		
Midwives employed by the Authority (including those engaged on a fee-per- case basis) 	229	27	3	—	259
Private practising midwives ... ...	—	...	...	1	1
Totals	229	27	3	1	260

The increasing trend towards institutional care during the confinement continues. Seventy-four per cent. of the 996 births assigned to Dumfriesshire took place in hospital and 26 per cent. were domiciliary births.

Gas and air analgesia was administered to 103 women in labour and analgesia by pethidine to 78 others.

During the year three district nursing sisters attended a refresher course for midwives and district nurses.

3. Health Visiting.

There was no alteration during the year in the arrangements for health visiting.

Home visitations made by the health visitors are classified as follows :—

	1953	1952
Expectant mothers :—		
First visits	249	262
Total visits	1,005	1,064
Children under 1 year :—		
First visits	1,267	1,193
Total visits	8,196	9,908
Children 1–5 years :—		
First visits	1,314	1,211
Total visits	11,289	12,299
Other cases :—		
First visits	54	—
Total visits	212	—

4. Home Nursing.

The details of home nursing visits are shown in the following table :—

	Number of cases	Number of visits
Home nurses employed directly	2779	32290

5. Vaccination and Immunisation.

(a) VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

Primary vaccination was carried out successfully in 579 cases and re-vaccination in 102 cases.

Investigation into the vaccination state of children attending schools in the education area would indicate that 76% of children in the county schools and 63% of children in Dumfries schools have been vaccinated against smallpox.

Age	No. vaccinated for the first time		Re-vaccinations	
	Typical	No reaction	Typical	No reaction
Under 1 year ...	322	8	2	—
1—4 years ...	229	—	8	—
5—15 years ...	10	—	1	1
15 years or over ...	18	—	91	4

(b) IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

During the year, 1,088 children were fully immunised and 1,389 received maintenance inoculations when they entered school for the first time.

It is estimated that 95% of all pre-school children in Dumfriesshire have been immunised against diphtheria.

(c) VACCINATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH.

The great majority of children fully immunised against diphtheria during the year also received whooping cough prophylactic.

In addition, 199 older children were vaccinated against whooping cough alone.

6. Prevention, care and after-care.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The general picture in regard to tuberculosis, as shown by incidence rate and by mortality rate, is improved as compared with previous years. The tuberculosis death rate for the year was 0.15 per 1,000 of the population.

	M.	F.	Total
Number of cases notified as suffering from respiratory tuberculosis ...	25	18	43
Number of cases notified as suffering from non-respiratory tuberculosis	6	8	14
Cases transferred to Dumfriesshire during 1953 ...	9	10	19
	—	—	—
	40	36	76
	—	—	—

	M.	F.	Total
Respiratory cases admitted to hospital	23	17	40
Non-respiratory cases admitted to hospital	2	1	3
	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 18	<hr/> 43
Number of deaths (respiratory) ...	4	3	7
Number of deaths (non-respiratory) ...	—	1	1
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 8
Number of respiratory cases on register	156	180	336
Number of non-respiratory cases on register	31	38	69
	<hr/> 187	<hr/> 218	<hr/> 405

Visits paid by tuberculosis health visitor 1,059

7. Control of Infectious Diseases.

The increased incidence of infectious diseases, as compared with the previous year, affected only whooping cough and dysentery. Whooping cough was notified from most areas of the County but notified cases of dysentery; almost without exception, resided in the burgh of Langholm. Extensive investigations failed to reveal the origin of this outbreak. In two of the notified cases of poliomyelitis the disease was of the paralytic type. One patient was extremely ill and required prolonged treatment in a mechanical respirator. The residual paralysis in this case was very extensive.

Five hundred and thirty-nine notifications of infectious disease were received during the year. The particulars of these notifications are shown in the following table, together with the corresponding figures for the past nine years for comparison :

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Year.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Diphtheria.	Dysentery.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Erysipelas.	Taundice—Acute Infective.	Malaria.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Pneumonia—Acute Influenzal.	Pneumonia—Acute Primary.	Poliomylitis—Acute.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Scarlet Fever.	Tuberculosis—Pulmonary.	Tuberculosis—Non-pulmonary.	Typhoid Fever.	Paratyphoid Fever.	Undulant Fever.	Whooping-cough.	Total.
1944	14	106	69	2	30	...	19	...	9	44	1	1	7	107	41	27	1	4	1	...	484
1945	16	89	28	...	22	...	4	2	3	37	2	1	1	143	61	36	...	...	1	...	452
1946	...	76	21	...	18	...	7	...	20	49	...	1	1	73	54	26	...	...	...	...	354
1947	8	18	4	...	18	...	1	...	4	36	46	1	3	63	67	28	...	...	...	...	298
1948	6	18	1	2	18	...	1	2	1	41	1	1	2	73	89	26	...	...	...	...	267
1949	1	8	1	...	12	...	1	...	2	31	7	1	...	87	62	13	...	1	...	...	232
1950	1	1	3	...	6	...	1	...	...	20	5	1	1	58	50	10	1	1	1	202	433
1951	1	...	74	...	12	1	...	...	3	35	2	...	...	111	48	8	...	...	...	147	402
1952	6	...	34	...	6	1	3	...	1	34	2	1	...	126	47	14	...	3	...	...	333
1953	2	...	60	...	5	...	1	...	1	20	5	...	...	140	43	14	...	...	...	...	539

8. Mental Health.

The arrangements under this heading are as described in the Report for 1952.

(a) LUNACY (SCOTLAND) ACTS, 1857-1866.

During the year 8 persons were admitted to mental hospitals at the instance of the authorised officers. There is one boarded-out lunatic in the area and he is supervised by officers of the County Council as agents of the Regional Hospital Board.

(b) MENTAL DEFICIENCY AND LUNACY (SCOTLAND) ACTS, 1913-40.

Three mentally defective persons were admitted to certified institutions during the year. Twenty-four mental defectives whose ordinary residence is in Dumfriesshire are presently cared for in certified institutions.

Five mental defectives are boarded-out in the County and two are under guardianship outwith Dumfriesshire. The conditions of guardianship in each case were satisfactory.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The following table shows the particulars of persons afforded residential accommodation during the year:—

	Rowantree House			Notwen House		
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.
Number of residents at 1/1/53	13	13	...	16	4	...
Number admitted during the year	30	16	14	12	12	1
Number discharged during the year	27	13	9	17	7	1
Number of residents at 31/12/53	16	16	5	11	9	...

The work of installing central heating and the general reconstruction of the premises at Notwen House was completed during the year.

The adaptation of the house Benreay, Lockerbie, for use as residential accommodation was completed by the end of the year.

During the year 10 new cases of blindness were registered. The total number of blind persons on the register at the end of the year was 82 (45 males, 37 females). These cases may be classified as follows:

At school in a Blind Institution	...	...	1
Employed in workshops	...	...	2
Undergoing industrial training	...	...	1
Employed as "home workers"	...	...	7
Unemployable	...	...	71
			—
			82
			—

MILK SUPPLIES.

1. Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914.

The total amount of milk produced in the County during the year was 20,186,616 gallons. Of this amount 19,899,505 gallons, or 98.58%, was "Tuberculin Tested" milk. The percentage last year was 98.18.

Thirty-six plans were examined in connection with the construction of new dairy premises and reconditioning of existing ones.

Twelve entirely new dairy farms were registered, and six "Tuberculin Tested" and two "Ordinary" dairies ceased milk production during the year. The total number of producing dairies in the County is now 854. This total is made up of 829 "Tuberculin Tested" dairies (10 more than last year), 2 "Standard," and 23 "Ordinary." The "Ordinary" dairies amount to 2.6% of the total.

The number of dairies using mechanical coolers has risen considerably during the year and these total 109 at present.

2,372 visits were made to dairy farms during the year, as follows :—

Routine	Structural	Milk (Spec. Des.) Orders	Scottish Milk Testing Scheme	Miscellaneous
825	432	928	102	85

The three creameries in the County operated satisfactorily.

2. Retail Milk Samples.

One hundred and twenty-two samples of retail milk were taken during the year and 23 (18%) of these proved unsatisfactory. Thirteen retailers were concerned with these unsatisfactory samples.

The total number of retailers in the County is 36, and 4 of these retailers were granted "Certified" licences during year 1953.

Sterility rinses were taken of milk bottles in use at retail premises and, in most cases, the results were very satisfactory.

3. Milk in Schools Scheme.

Three hundred samples of school milk were taken and 71 (23%) were unsatisfactory bacteriologically. Sixteen retailers were concerned with these unsatisfactory samples.

4. Scottish Milk Testing Scheme.

The number of notifications from creameries as to milk supplies failing tests under the scheme was 235. Last year the figure was 229.

The following table shows the total numbers of notifications in their various categories from each creamery receiving milk from producers in the County:—

C R E A M E R Y	Weekly Tests			Platform Tests	Total
	2nd	3rd	4th		
Carnation Milk Factory ...	43	6	2	28	79
Lockerbie Creamery ...	53	6	1	57	117
Sanquhar Creamery ...	12	2	...	8	22
Cowhill Creamery ...	1	...	...	...	1
Murchie's Creamery ...	...	...	...	3	3
Edinburgh and Dumfriesshire Dairy Company ...	4	...	...	4	8
Other Creameries ...	...	...	...	5	5
Totals ...	113	14	3	105	235

5. Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1934.

The attention of a number of producers was drawn to the defective and unsatisfactory condition of lids on their milk churns being used for the consignment of milk for sale.

6. Milk (Special Designations) Orders (Scotland), 1936-1949.

Sixty-two producers' "Tuberculin Tested" licences were granted during the year. Of these, 17 were new producers taking over farms where the previous producer had held a "Tuberculin Tested" licence, and 27 were merely changes in the name of the licensed producer. Thus 18 entirely new "Tuberculin Tested" licences were issued. These were made up of 7 "Ordinary" dairies, upgraded to "Tuberculin Tested" and 11 new dairies which, after complying with required conditions, went on to "Tuberculin Tested" milk production.

Five thousand one hundred and fourteen milk samples were taken during the year, of which 43 were qualifying samples from producers applying for licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders; 15 were of "Standard" milk and 5,056 of "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

The number of unsatisfactory samples was 1,050 or 20.5% of the total number taken.

The number of farmers concerned with the unsatisfactory milk samples was 482, of which 205 had only one unsatisfactory sample. Three hundred and fifty-one farms had no unsatisfactory milk samples. There were 204 samples with bacterial counts under 3,000 per millilitre.

The number of samples which failed owing to the presence of coliform bacteria only was 443.

Fifty-five sterility rinses of dairy utensils were taken during the year.

The following table shows the samples taken during each month and the samples which proved unsatisfactory :

Month	Samples taken	Samples unsatisfactory
January ...	398	30
February ...	404	42
March	452	41
April	449	52
May	388	69
June	397	146
July	423	155
August	470	172
September ...	421	128
October	443	86
November ...	421	66
December ...	448	63

Twenty-three producers were reported in connection with unsatisfactory milk samples and methods of production, and two of these producers were reported on two occasions during the year.

Each case was considered by the appropriate committee of the County Council and the licences of three of the produceers concerned were suspended. The licence of one producer was revoked. Two were suspended for one month and the other for four months. The licence which was revoked was on account of unsatisfactory premises being used for milk production. Twenty-two producers were warned that, in the event of further unsatisfactory milk samples being obtained or other evidence of unsatisfactory methods of production, their licence would be suspended or revoked.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY.

During the year a total of 2,751 samples were submitted for examination at the chemical laboratory. Details of the nature and source of these are given in Appendix I.

Food and Drugs.

During the year 592 samples in all were submitted by the Joint Committee of Dumfriesshire and the County Councils of Kirkcudbright and Wigtown. Particulars of these are shown in Appendix II.

Of the 274 samples of milk, 59 were found to be below the presumptive limits of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901.

There was an increase in the number of samples of ice cream taken in the County of Dumfries, but one only was found to be not genuine in that it was deficient in fat content to the extent of 10%. One sample from the County of Kirkcudbright was deficient in fat to the extent of 16% and, of the 12 samples submitted from Wigtownshire, 2 were deficient in fat to the extent of 32% and 40% respectively.

Three samples of mince taken in the County of Kirkcudbright during the months October to May were found to contain sulphite preservative and two samples of sausages from Wigtownshire contained an excess of sulphite preservative. The preservative regulations do not permit of preservatives being added to mince during the months October to May but allow the addition of sulphite preservative, equivalent to 450 parts per million of sulphur dioxide, to be added to mince during the months June to September.

A sample of butter from Wigtownshire contained a slight excess of moisture.

The remaining adulterated samples were informal. The mint sauce was certified not genuine on account of a labelling offence. The sample of fishcakes was deficient in fish content by 14%. Fishcakes should contain not less than 35% of fish. Carbolic oil should consist of 5% phenol in arachis oil but, in the sample submitted, phenol was present in excess amounting to 79%.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Twenty-eight samples of fertiliser and 34 of feeding stuff were examined.

Milk.

Six hundred and thirty-four informal samples of the milk delivered to creameries in Dumfriesshire were examined during the year. Of these, 2 were found to be deficient in fat and 21 deficient in non-fatty solids. The average for all the samples submitted was found to be: butter fat 3.93%, non-fatty solids 8.79%. It is proposed to deal more fully in future reports on the results of the analysis of these milks.

Milk (Special Designations).

Four hundred and fifteen samples of heat-treated and pasteurised milk were submitted for examination by the phosphatase test with the following results :—

TABLE I

Authority	No. of samples	No. suff. heat-treated	No. insuff. heat-treated	No. grossly under-treated
Dumfries County ...	11	11	...	...
Dumfries Burgh ...	108	106	1	1
Kirkeudbright County	221	216	2	3
Wigtown County ...	75	72	2	1

Milk (School).

Two hundred and ninety-two samples of milk supplied to schools in Dumfriesshire were submitted by the County Medical Officer for complete chemical analysis. The average figures were : fat 3.78% and non-fatty solids 8.78%. The fat content of 10 samples fell below the presumptive limit of 3%, and 32 samples contained less than the presumptive limit of 8.5% for non-fatty solids. On further examination, 28 of these samples were found to be of abnormal composition and 3 of the remaining samples contained a minimum of 2% added water, while the reduction of the non-fatty solids of the fourth was equivalent to the addition of 9% of water.

Water—Potable.

Regular examinations continue to be made of the water supplied from the Kettleton and Winterhope reservoirs, together with quarterly samples from the supplies to the Burghs of Annan, Langholm, Lockerbie, Lochmaben, Moffat and Sanquhar. The introduction of the Euchar supply entailed the examination of many samples of the raw and treated water and several visits to the filtration plant.

The other samples examined for potability had reference to proposed new supplies or to complaints regarding existing ones. Although their condition is frequently considered unsatisfactory by reason of surface contamination, these supplies are rarely

contaminated by sewage and suitable protection of the source or the installation of a filter usually serves to provide a satisfactory supply.

Of the samples submitted, 41 were found to contain compounds of lead, copper or zinc in varying amounts. Table No. 2 gives the range of these amounts, together with the usually accepted safety limit.

TABLE 2

	No. of samples	Pts. per 100,000	Safety Limit
Lead ...	11	From .005—.08	0.05
Copper ...	7	From .08 —.31	0.14
Zinc ...	23	From .029—1.70	0.50

Two samples from the County of Dumfries, 9 from the Stewartry of Kirkeudbright and 2 from the County of Wigtown contained excessive amounts of metallic compounds and were certified unsatisfactory for dietetic purposes.

On two occasions lead was found in the routine quarterly sample from the Johnstonebridge district and 2 samples from the Wamphray district contained copper. The amount of copper in one sample was in excess of the usually accepted safety limit. Analyses of further samples from the Moffat Burgh supply showed this water to be still metallo-solvent and, although the amount of lead taken up from lead service pipes was negligible, where copper service pipes were in use the amount of copper found in the water was considerable.

Two samples of private supplies to schools in the County of Dumfries were submitted for examination for temporary hardness to determine their suitability for use in hot water installations heated by electricity.

Water—River.

Early in the year a burn flowing through farmlands where an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease had occurred was found to be contaminated by what appeared to be sewage fungus. Analysis of samples showed the water to be contaminated with putrescible matter of animal origin and to be deficient in dissolved oxygen.

The burn was known to be free from discharged sewage and it was concluded that drainage from the pit containing the slaughtered animals was gaining access. Steps were taken to isolate the pit and divert the drainage water and, when this was done, the condition of the stream gradually improved, although a sample taken after the lapse of three months still showed evidence of pollution.

Two samples of water from the River Nith taken in the vicinity of the town of Dumfries during a period of drought and submitted by the Nith District Fishery Board were shown to be free from pollution by sewage and to be fully oxygenated, although containing abundant growths of diatoms and other algae.

Since the beginning of pumping operations at the Wanlock-head Lead Mine, samples of the water carrying the effluent have been examined for the presence of lead. In the Glencrieff Adit, the amount of lead in suspension has risen on occasions to 0.05 parts per 100,000, but the amounts in solution and suspension in the Wanlock and Crawick Waters have been small and present no danger to cattle drinking the water.

Sewage and Sewage Effluents.

No samples of sewage or sewage effluent were submitted during the year.

Gas Examinations.

Under the Gas Act, 1948, the Minister of Fuel and Power is required to appoint persons to carry out tests of the gas supplied by Area Boards.

By arrangement with the Ministry, 28 tests were made during the year at the Gas Works, Dumfries. On every occasion the gas was found to be of the declared calorific value, to be free from hydrogen sulphide and to be maintained at a pressure above the statutory minimum.

Miscellaneous.

Samples of two detergents were submitted by the School Meals Supervisor to decide which should be used in the school kitchens. The products were of different chemical composition, but were found to be equally effective in removing grease from glassware and it was reported that either product would be found satisfactory for use in the kitchen.

Dried milk powder taken from stock at the School Meals Centre was submitted by the County Medical Officer. The moisture content was found to be higher than that of the freshly prepared product and the acidity was 0.65% in excess of the 1% as lactic acid, said to produce a sour taste. The taste of this sample was found to be satisfactory and the opinion was expressed that the powder was suitable for immediate use.

The stomach contents, liver and kidneys from a cow suspected of having been poisoned were found to contain 0.058%, 0.0025%, and 0.025% of lead respectively. The examination of the heavier material separated from the stomach contents by levigation yielded black particles which, on crushing, showed a red interior. This substance was identified as red lead.

A slice of brown bread said to contain a cigarette end was submitted by the Sanitary Inspector for the Burgh of Dumfries. A microscopical examination of the foreign matter present showed the diagnostic characters of tobacco leaf and cellulose fibre.

Samples of aerated water produced at a factory at Eastriggs were submitted by the County Medical Officer for investigation of the suspended matter present which had resulted in the return of a large number of bottles to the factory. The suspended matter was found to consist of mineral matter and vegetable debris, together with a large number of chlorophyceae (*scenedesmus*). *Scenedesmus* was found to be present in the water supplied to the factory but was not present in the effluent water from the filtration plant at Winterhope Reservoir. The growth was eventually traced to the Douglas storage tanks, where rapid multiplication of the algae had resulted from exceptional climatic conditions.

Samples of tea were submitted by the County Sanitary Inspector of Wigtownshire at the request of the C.O. of an R.A.F. Station as a result of complaints that the tea was undrinkable and had caused sickness and diarrhoea. The description of the appearance of the infusions and the symptoms shown on drinking them suggested metallic contamination, and an initial examination was confined to a search for the presence of heavy metals and arsenic. Further enquiry established the facts that three-quarters of the 1 cwt. of tea had been used before complaints arose and that the same tea had been used at another station without complaint. It appeared, therefore, that the methods or the utensils used in making the infusions were responsible for the

complaint and it was unfortunate that samples of the infusion complained of had not been submitted for examination. Samples of water from the boiler and of infusions from the urn after these receptacles had been cleaned out were found to contain negligible amounts of copper and iron. It was reported, from a consideration of the information supplied and the results of the analysis, that the conditions giving rise to the complaints appeared to be entirely of local origin and that the evidence was no longer available to determine the cause.

The remaining miscellaneous samples, consisting of pickles, ground limestone, soaps and composts, do not call for special comment.

APPENDIX I

	Food and Drugs	Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	Milk	Water	Sewage and Sewage Effluent	Miscel- laneous	Total.
Dumfries County Council	274	82	775	238	...	2	1371
Kirkeudbright County Council	197	3	303	177	...	...	686
Wigtown County Council...	121	6	287	47	...	5	466
Dumfries Burgh	...	...	106	4	...	1	111
Private and Other Local Authorities	...	16	19	25	...	57	117
							2751

APPENDIX II.

Table showing the number and nature of samples received under the Food and Drugs Act.

Article	County Councils of			Total samples examined	Total samples adulterated
	Dfs.	Kbt.	Wig.		
Milk	147(37)	89(14)	38(8)	274	59
Ice Cream	18(1)	6(1)	12(2)	36	3
Butter	2	3	5(1)	10	1
Cooking Fat	2	1	4	7	...
Beef Suet	2	...	2	4	...
Fish Cakes	5(1)	...	...	5	1
Mince ... ..	...	15(3)	2	17	3
Sausages ... ..	...	9	15(2)	24	2
Fish Spread ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Raspberry Jam ... ..	...	...	2	2	...
Strawberry Jam ... ..	...	1	1	2	...
Mustard ... ..	...	...	2	2	...
Salad Cream ... ..	...	1	3	4	...
Baking Powder ... ..	...	1	3	4	...
Whisky	12	16	3	31	...
Margarine	2	3	2	7	...
Cream ... ..	...	5	1	6	...
Crustless Cheese	1	...	...	1	...
Coffee Essence ... ..	...	1	1	2	...
Energen Flour	1	...	...	1	...
S.R. Flour	2	...	...	2	...
Arrowroot ... ..	...	2	...	2	...
Custard Powder ... ..	...	2	...	2	...
Corn Flour ... ..	...	3	...	3	...
Creamola Powder ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Ground Rice ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Semolina ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	...	...	1	...
Cream of Tartar ... ..	...	...	3	3	...
Citric Acid	2	...	...	2	...
Essence of Rennet	1	...	...	1	...
Tartaric Acid	3	...	...	3	...
Meat Paste ... ..	...	2	...	2	...
Rochelle Salts	1	...	...	1	...
Sausage Meat ... ..	...	...	4	4	...
Tomato Sauce	2	...	...	2	...
Tomato Ketchup	3	...	1	4	...
Olive Oil	2	2	1	5	...
"Pom" Potato Powder ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Vinegar ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Mint Sauce	1(1)	...	...	1	1
Lemonade Crystals	1	...	...	1	...
Lime Essence	1	...	...	1	...
Butterkist	1	...	...	1	...
Sugared Strands	1	...	...	1	...
Dessert Gelatine	1	...	...	1	...
Table Jelly	3	...	...	3	...
Aspirin	2	...	...	2	...
Carbolic Oil	5(1)	...	...	5	1
Carry forward	225(40)	167(18)	106(13)	498	71

Article	County Councils of			Total samples examined	Total samples adulterated
	Dfs.	Kbt.	Wig.		
Brought forward...	201(39)	161(18)	100(13)	462	69
Glycerine	1	1	...	2	...
Iodine	1	...	...	1	...
Syrup of Figs ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Lard Compound ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Lard ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Cheese ... ..	...	1	1	2	...
Sugar ... ..	...	2	...	2	...
Nestle's Cream ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
White Flour ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Aspic Jelly ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Fish Paste ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Mincemeat	4	...	1	5	...
Mixed Fruit	1	...	...	1	...
Christmas Pudding	3	...	...	3	...
Liquorice Allsorts ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Curry Powder ... ..	...	1	1	2	...
White Pepper ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Ginger Wine... ..	1	...	...	1	...
Epsom Salts ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Gregory Powder	2	...	...	2	...
Special Margarine	1	...	...	1	...
Condensed Milk ... ..	...	2	...	2	...
Evaporated Milk ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Morfat Whipping ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Shredded Suet ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Tea ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Cocoa ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Coffee and Chicory ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Bovril ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Beef Sausage ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Pork Sausage ... ..	...	2	...	2	...
Beef, Ham and Tongue Paste ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Turkey & Tongue Meat Paste ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Scotch Beef Ham ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Savoury Fish Cakes	1	...	...	1	...
Gooseberry Jam	1	...	...	1	...
Damson Jam	1	...	...	1	...
Swiss Black Cherry Jam	1	...	...	1	...
Pineapple Jam	1	...	...	1	...
Wino Jelly	1	...	...	1	...
Plum Jam	1	...	...	1	...
Blackcurrant Fruit Pres.	1	...	...	1	...
Honey ... ..	...	3	...	3	...
Garden Peas... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Dried Vegetables	1	...	...	1	...
Dried Parsley	1	...	...	1	...
Currants ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Rum ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Ginger Beer	2	...	...	2	...
Orange Squash	1	...	...	1	...
Orango Drink	1	...	...	1	...
Carry forward	186(31)	149(2)	73(9)	680	48

Article	County Councils of			Total samples examined	Total samples adulterated
	Dfs.	Kbt.	Wig.		
Brought forward ...	463(39)	149(2)	75(9)	687	50
Fructose	1	...	...	1	...
Sunda	1	...	...	1	...
Health Salts ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Glucose	1	...	...	1	...
Glucose Barley Sugar	2	...	...	2	...
Sponge Mixture ... ..	...	...	1	1	...
Liquid Paraffin	2	1	...	3	...
Castor Oil	1	1	...	2	...
Almond Oil	2	...	...	2	...
Noodle Soup ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Horlicks Tablets	1	...	...	1	...
Aspro ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Aspirin (Junior)	1	...	...	1	...
Hydrogen of Peroxide	1	...	...	1	...
Ammoniated Quinine	1	...	...	1	...
Grey Powder ($\frac{1}{2}$ gr.)	3	...	...	3	...
Seidlitz Powder	1	...	...	1	...
Zinc and Castor Oil Cream	1	...	...	1	...
Boric Acid Ointment	1	...	...	1	...
Ichthymol Ointment	1	...	...	1	...
Total	274(41)	197(18)	121(13)	592	71

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Report for Year ended 31st July, 1953.

1. List of Staff.

See beginning of this Report.

2. General Statistics.

Population of the County and Small Burghs	...	...	60,800
Population of the Burgh of Dumfries	...	...	26,700
Number of Schools :—			
(a) Primary schools	}	under education authority	86
(b) Secondary schools			
(c) (i) Special schools	...	...	...
(ii) Special classes in ordinary schools	...	...	3
(d) In receipt of grant from education authority and under medical inspection	...	...	1
(e) Nursery schools	...	...	2
(f) Occupation Centre	...	...	1
Number of children on the registers	...	...	13,740
Number of children in average attendance	...	...	12,515

3. Sanitary Conditions of Schools.

The following improvements have been carried out during the year :—

Tarmacadam paving has been laid down on thirteen playgrounds.

New latrines for boys have been provided at one school.

Additional w.es. and wash-hand basins have been installed in one nursery school.

4. Organisation and Administration.

SYSTEM AND EXTENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND TREATMENT.

The school medical officers pay the following visits :—

A. MEDICAL EXAMINATION :—

I.—Routine Visits. Each school is visited twice a year for the purpose of routine inspection. According to instructions from the Department of Health the following groups of children are examined at these visits :

1. All infant entrants (first age group).
2. Second age group (this year—those born in 1943).
3. Third age group (this year—those born in 1939).
4. Fourth age group (this year—those born in 1936).
5. Other systematic examinations (*i.e.* those missed at the age period through absence and entrants from another area with no previous record).

Children in these groups all have a full examination.

6. Children aged seven are tested for vision and hearing only.
7. Re-inspections.

(i) All children present who were previously found to be suffering from a defect. These are seen twice a year until the defect is remedied.

(ii) All children previously found to be verminous or unclean. These are kept under supervision twice a year, even if free from infestation, until the school medical officer considers that cleanliness is permanently established.

(iii) Any child whom the school medical officer considers should be kept under supervision for any particular reason.

8. Special examination—

(i) Any child referred by the parent, teacher, school nurse, or family doctor for special examination for some particular reason.

(ii) Any child known to be a contact of some infectious condition, usually at the request of the chief school medical officer.

9. Diphtheria immunisation is also carried out at these visits.

II. Follow-up visits are paid to the schools if necessary about a month after the initial visit for the purpose of seeing any child found to have a defect, and also to give second inoculations against diphtheria.

III. Special visits are paid to the schools at other times, if required, for the purpose of examining and assessing children suspected of being handicapped, to investigate any infectious disease, or in connection with the provision of special transport.

Special visits are also paid to the home in connection with any of these or other conditions. All known children of school

age not on the school roll are visited in their homes at least once a year, as are also children at special schools outwith the county who return home for holidays. Handicapped children are thus kept under supervision until the age of 16 years.

B. TREATMENT :—

Children found at the medical inspection to be in need of attention are referred as follows :—

1. To the family doctor for ordinary conditions.
2. To the consultant physician or surgeon for conditions requiring the attention of a specialist. The consent of the family doctor is obtained before doing this.
3. The school medical officers investigate all cases of suspected defective vision at the clinic in the County Buildings. Glasses are ordered where necessary and provided by a dispensing firm of opticians nominated by the Western Regional Hospital Board for this purpose. Cases presenting special difficulty are referred to the consulting ophthalmologist at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary or at Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle. If glasses are prescribed in these cases, they have to be dispensed through the Supplementary Ophthalmic Service. This dual procedure for the provision of glasses is apt to be unsatisfactory both from the point of view of supervision in the school and of the repair of broken glasses.
4. Minor ailment clinics are in operation as follows :—

Dumfries Burgh	...	...	daily.
Annan	...	...	3 times weekly.
Gretna	...	...	3 times weekly.
Eastriggs	...	...	3 times weekly.
Kirkpatrick-Fleming	...	...	once a week.
Kirkconnel	...	...	once a week.
Kelloholm	...	...	twice weekly.

The county clinics are conducted entirely by the health visitor for the area.

C. SCHOOL NURSING AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR FOLLOWING UP.

The school nursing work in the county area is carried out by eighteen district nursing sisters, and in three areas, Gretna, Annan and Kirkconnel—Sanquhar by three health visitors. The nurses are in attendance at the school for the routine visits of the

school medical officers, they follow up in their homes all children notified as being defective or unclean, and they pay a monthly visit to each school in their respective areas. In Dumfries Burgh the work is carried out by four health visitors, who also pay periodic visits to the schools to carry out cleanliness inspections.

The district nursing sisters and health visitors in the course of their domiciliary visiting for other purposes do a vast amount of unrecorded work in an advisory capacity.

D. CO-ORDINATION WITH THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AND WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS OF THE AUTHORITY WHICH RENDER SERVICES TO CHILDREN.

As the Chief School Medical Officer is also Medical Officer of Health and Chief Welfare Officer in the County, and as the departments are all housed in the same building, co-ordination is complete.

The school medical officers also act as assistant medical officers of health in the County and have duties to perform in that capacity, mainly in connection with infectious disease and immunisation. They keep in touch with children referred to the Mental Deficiency Authority until they reach the age of sixteen and longer if necessary.

There is close co-ordination with the medical department of Dumfries Burgh, the burgh health visitors acting as school nurses in that area.

There is also good co-ordination with the Director of Education in all matters affecting individual children.

Children are examined by the school medical officers at the request of the Children's Officer before being boarded-out, and at the request of the police authorities before being sent to approved schools.

Reports on school premises prepared by the school medical officer are sent to the County Architect, and any suggestions for alterations or improvements are communicated to him.

E. CO-OPERATION WITH VOLUNTARY BODIES AND OTHER OUTSIDE AGENCIES.

So far as is possible or necessary, co-operation is maintained with voluntary bodies and other outside agencies. These deal mainly with children handicapped in one form or another. Reports

on school leavers are furnished at the request of the Employment Officer of the Ministry of Labour.

F. CO-OPERATION WITH TEACHERS AND PARENTS.

All school medical records are kept centrally in the county health office. Arrangements for a routine inspection are made with the head teacher, who supplies all information regarding new entrants, transfers and leavers and submits a list of any children he wishes specially examined. The parents are informed of the date and hour of systematic examinations only. They are asked to supply information about previous illnesses and are invited to attend at the examination. After the examination, intimation is posted direct to the parent of any condition requiring attention, and a list of the children found to be suffering from defects or uncleanness is sent to the head teacher and to the district nursing sister or health visitor of the area. There are statutory obligations with regard to co-operation with parents and teachers in the assessment of handicapped children and these are complied with in every case. Co-operation of the nurses with parents and teachers is also well maintained, as noted above.

General health propaganda is mainly incidental and is carried out by nurses and teachers. The school medical officers are periodically asked to address parent-teacher associations or other voluntary organisations on the subject of the health of the school child.

5. The Findings of Medical Inspection.

Parents present at systematic examinations :—

			Boys.	Girls.
Entrants	...	...	79.19%	78.5%
2nd Age Group	...	...	13.22%	19.58%
3rd Age Group	...	...	1.23%	0.55%
4th Age Group	...	...	...	3.5%
Other systematic	...	...	10.07%	9.56%

These figures show a slight increase in the first two groups.

Referring to Table I. which follows, there was an increase of 228 in the number of children examined systematically in each age group, but most marked in the 3rd age group, *i.e.* children born in 1939. There was a slight preponderance of boys over girls in all groups except in the 4th age group. The number of

children seen at special examinations shows a marked drop this year due to the fact that a school camp was not held during the year. Re-inspections were considerably fewer, showing a return to the figures previous to 1951.

The number of children notified for uncleanness is the same as for last year when there was an improvement over previous years. There was a drop in the number notified for defects, approximating more to the figure for 1951.

With reference to Table II., the figures below refer to the children examined in the specified age groups, and are thus only a sample of the whole school population. Generally speaking, however, the percentages give a fair indication of the total prevalence of the various conditions, with the exception of cleanliness and clothing, of mental and nervous conditions and of illness necessitating absence from school.

The total number of children examined was 4149.

CLOTHING—unsatisfactory :—

Boys	...	...	...	...	—	—
Girls	...	...	...	...	5	0.25%

FOOTGEAR—unsatisfactory :—

Boys	...	...	...	...	1	0.05%
Girls	...	...	...	...	—	—

UNCLEANLINESS :—

(a) Head (dirty)—

Boys	...	...	...	...	1	0.05%
Girls	...	...	...	...	3	0.15%

Head (pediculosis)—

Boys	...	...	...	...	15	0.69%
Girls	...	...	...	...	78	3.89%

(b) Body (dirty)—

Boys	...	...	...	...	11	0.51%
Girls	...	...	...	...	3	0.15%

Body (pediculosis)—

Boys	...	...	...	...	1	0.05%
Girls	...	...	...	...	—	—

These figures do not in themselves give a true picture of the state of cleanliness of the children, as the parents have due notification of the examination and have opportunity to present their children in a cleanly condition. It is interesting, however,

to compare the pediculosis figures with those of previous years. They continue to show a downward trend.

SKIN.

(a) Head—

Ringworm	...	...	...	Boys	2	0.09%
				Girls	—	—

This has been of the Kerion variety which can be cured without any special treatment.

Impetigo	...	...	...	Boys	2	0.09%
				Girls	—	—

This condition is less frequently found than in years gone by, due most probably to improvement in cleanliness and earlier and more effective treatment.

Other diseases	...	...	...	Boys	10	0.46%
				Girls	11	0.55%

These comprise various conditions, and the figures vary according to what the examiner considers worth recording.

(b) Body—

Ringworm	...	...	...	Boys	—	—
				Girls	1	0.05%

Impetigo	...	...	...	Boys	1	0.05%
				Girls	—	—

Scabies...	...	...	...	Boys	—	—
				Girls	2	0.10%

Other diseases	...	...	...	Boys	33	1.53%
				Girls	24	1.19%

These last comprise various conditions, mostly dermatitis. The figures are lower than those for last year but approximate those of previous years.

NUTRITIONAL STATE.

Slightly defective	...	...	...	Boys	133	6.19%
				Girls	153	7.64%

Bad	...	...	...	Boys	—	—
				Girls	1	0.05%

It is notoriously difficult to gauge the nutritional state of a growing child as there is no universal standard of normal nutrition. Figures are apt to vary according to the standards used by different medical officers. Percentages of the nutritional state of the children since 1946 are as follows :

			Slightly defective.		Bad.	
			Boys	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
1946	...	...	19.92	18.85	0.55	0.42
1947	...	...	20.03	18.74	0.46	0.32
1948	...	...	20.85	16.68	0.30	0.33
1949	...	...	14.55	13.28	—	0.11
1950	...	...	10.85	9.49	0.06	—
1951	...	...	7.45	7.96	0.17	0.05
1952	...	...	8.63	6.97	0.04	—
1953	...	...	6.19	7.64	—	0.05

MOUTH AND TEETH.

Unhealthy	...	...	...	Boys	24	1.12%
				Girls	19	0.95%

These figures are for mouth and teeth conditions, other than dental caries, requiring treatment. In previous reports the dental condition as regards caries was noted in all groups except the 5-year-olds, but according to instructions from the Department of Health the new method was adopted this year.

NASO-PHARYNX.

(a) Nose—

Obstruction requiring observation				Boys	50	2.33%
				Girls	22	1.10%
Obstruction requiring operation				Boys	38	1.77%
				Girls	41	2.05%
Other conditions	...	...		Boys	10	0.46%
				Girls	1	0.05%

(b) Throat—

Tonsils requiring observation	...			Boys	148	6.94%
				Girls	174	8.69%
Tonsils requiring operation	...			Boys	50	2.33%
				Girls	60	3.00%

(c) Glands—

Requiring observation	...	...		Boys	24	1.12%
				Girls	9	0.45%
Requiring operation	...	...		Boys	—	—
				Girls	—	—

These figures remain very much the same from year to year.

EYES.

(a) External Diseases—

Blepharitis	...	...	...	Boys	10	0.46%
				Girls	12	0.60%
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	Boys	1	0.05%
				Girls	3	0.15%
Corneal opacities	...	...	...	Boys	1	0.05%
				Girls	1	0.05%
Strabismus	...	...	...	Boys	34	1.63%
				Girls	29	1.45%
Other diseases	...	...	...	Boys	3	0.14%
				Girls	6	0.30%

These figures are much the same as in previous years. Some fluctuations are noticed, particularly in regard to squints, but there is no evidence that this condition is on the increase.

(b) Visual Acuity—

Fair	...	...	...	Boys	444	20.68%
					400	23.45%
Bad	...	...	...	Boys	56	2.60%
					88	5.16%
Recommended for refraction	...			Boys	54	2.51%
					79	4.64%

There are fewer boys this year with bad vision: this was noted also last year. As usual, figures for bad vision in boys are lower than for girls.

EARS.

(a) Diseases—

Otorrhoea	...	...	...	Boys	9	0.41%
				Girls	11	0.55%
Other diseases	...	...	...	Boys	3	0.14%
				Girls	1	0.05%

(b) Defective Hearing—

Grade I.	...	...	...	Boys	3	0.14%
				Girls	5	0.25%
Grade IIa.	...	...	...	Boys	3	0.14%
				Girls	5	0.25%
Grade IIb.	...	...	...	Boys	—	—
				Girls	—	—
Grade III.	...	...	...	Boys	—	—
				Girls	—	—

Children with severe degrees of deafness are educated in special schools outwith the county. Minor degrees of deafness are not easy to detect and various methods of ascertainment have been tried by the school medical officers but none has proved satisfactory. The teacher is in a better position to notice a child whose hearing seems to be defective, and it is hoped that teachers will be on the look-out for such children and refer them to the school medical officer. Bad or doubtful cases are always referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat specialist.

SPEECH.

Defective articulation	Boys	10	0.46%
	Girls	5	0.25%
Stammering	Boys	5	0.23%
	Girls	2	0.10%

These figures are undoubtedly under-estimates, for these conditions are not always evident to the medical officer at the systematic examination. The entrant group are often temporarily speechless at the examination, and it is in that group that defects in articulation mostly occur. Here, again, the teacher can help by bringing any such condition to the notice of the medical officer. Meantime, however, little or no treatment is available for those who require it, except what a conscientious infant teacher can give in the classroom.

MENTAL AND NERVOUS CONDITIONS.

Figures are not given for this, as it is impossible in most cases to ascertain a child's mental or nervous condition at the systematic examination. Teachers again can help in bringing such conditions to the notice of the medical officer and all cases of educational subnormality referred by the teacher are investigated at a special examination according to the procedure set out in the Education (Scotland) Act, 1946.

During the past year forty mental tests have been performed by the school medical officers. The number of individual children in attendance at the Child Guidance Clinic was 329.

CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.

(a) Organic heart disease—

(i) Congenital	Boys	1	0.05%
	Girls	2	0.10%
(ii) Acquired	Boys	4	0.18%
	Girls	5	0.25%

(b) Functional conditions—

Boys	46	2.14%
Girls	57	2.35%

(c) Anaemia.

Boys	6	0.28%
Girls	3	0.15%

No comment is necessary on figures for heart conditions. The cases of anaemia were found in the entrant group. The clinical assessment of anaemia is not reliable, but these figures show a considerable decrease on former years.

LUNGS.

(a) Chronic bronchitis	Boys	9	0.41%
	Girls	2	0.10%
(b) Suspected tuberculosis ...	Boys	2	0.09%
	Girls	—	—
(c) Other diseases	Boys	40	1.86%
	Girls	29	1.45%

There has been little change in (a) and (b) during recent years. Cases in (c) occur mostly in the entrant group and compared with previous years are few in number. There has been particular improvement this year among the girls. They comprise mainly temporary catarrhs and mild asthma.

DEFORMITIES.

Congenital	Boys	11	0.51%
	Girls	7	0.35%
Acquired (infantile paralysis)...	Boys	4	0.18%
	Girls	2	0.10%
Acquired (probably rickets) ...	Boys	15	0.69%
	Girls	7	0.35%
Acquired (other causes) ...	Boys	26	1.21%
	Girls	7	0.35%

No comment is required, as the figures remain much the same as in previous years. The figures given here for infantile paralysis are not an indication of the total number of children at all ages suffering from this condition, nor do these figures include children not attending school.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Boys	11	0.51%
Girls	13	0.65%

These figures are higher this year owing to the fact that several routine examinations have coincided with epidemics of chickenpox or rubella.

OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS.

Boys	24	1.12%
Girls	36	1.80%

These figures are again low this year, but no special significance should be attached to this.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DEFECTS.

Analysis of Table III. shows marked differences under the headings "Free from defect" and "Mouth and teeth unhealthy." This is due to the fact that, on instructions from the Department of Health, no record is now made of simple caries in teeth. The figures under these headings are not, therefore, comparable with those of previous years. Figures for temporary ailments are lower this year in all age groups except the second. Figures for conditions in which cure is possible are also lower. The figures for conditions where improvement is possible include also those where no improvement is likely to occur; these fluctuate a little year by year but remain about the same level.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Table I.

Total number of children examined at :—

A. Systematic examinations—

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Entrants	...	...	894	826	1720
Second age group	...	...	628	582	1210
Third age group	...	...	569	538	1107
Fourth age group	...	...	55	57	112
			2146	2003	4149

Other systematic examinations (*i.e.* children missed at age group but subsequently examined systematically)—

Boys.	Girls.	Total.
129	136	262

B. Other examinations :—

(1) Special cases seen at routine visits	...	...	254
Special cases seen at special visits	...	...	102
Number of special visits	...	...	120
(2) Re-inspections by school medical officers—			
For defects	...	...	4630
For uncleanness	...	...	492
(3) Number of cleanliness inspections by Burgh health visitors	...	...	877

The number of individual children inspected at systematic examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	159
Second age group	...	...	...	...	58
Third age group	...	...	...	...	27
Fourth age group	...	...	...	...	4
Other systematic examinations	...	...	...	...	12
					<hr/>
					260
					<hr/>

Total number notified for uncleanness ... 57

Table II.—SYSTEMATIC

RETURN OF NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUAL

NATURE OF DEFECT.	Total examined at all ages 4149	ENTRANTS			
		Boys 894		Girls 826	
		No.	%	No.	%
1. CLOTHING UNSATISFACTORY ... ..	...	...	...	1	0.12
2. FOOTGEAR UNSATISFACTORY ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
3. UNCLEANLINESS :—					
(a) Head—Dirty ... ..	...	...	...	1	0.12
Nits or Vermin ... ..	...	10	1.11	25	3.03
(b) Body—Dirty ... ..	...	5	0.55	2	0.24
Verminous ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
4. SKIN :—					
(a) Head—Ringworm ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Impetigo ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases ... ..	...	1	0.11	4	0.48
(b) Body—Ringworm ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Impetigo ... ..	...	1	0.11	...	...
Scabies ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases ... ..	...	18	2.01	12	1.45
5. NUTRITIONAL STATE :—					
Slightly defective ... ..	...	58	6.48	66	8.00
Bad ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
6. MOUTH AND TEETH :—					
Unhealthy ... ..	...	6	0.67	1	0.12
7. NASO-PHARYNX :—					
(a) Nose—					
i. Obstruction requiring observation ... ..	...	42	4.69	15	1.81
ii. Obstruction (probably adenoids) requiring operation ... ..	...	35	3.91	34	4.09
iii. Other conditions ... ..	...	6	0.67	...	...
(b) Throat—					
i. Tonsils requiring observation ... ..	...	113	12.63	125	15.13
ii. Tonsils requiring operation ... ..	...	39	4.36	44	5.33
(c) Glands—					
i. Requiring observation ... ..	...	16	1.78	7	0.84
ii. Requiring operation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
8. EYES :—					
(a) External Diseases—					
Blepharitis ... ..	...	6	0.67	4	0.48
Conjunctivitis ... ..	...	...	...	1	0.12
Corneal opacities ... ..	...	1	0.11	1	0.12
Strabismus ... ..	...	25	2.79	22	2.66
Other Diseases ... ..	...	2	0.22	3	0.36
(b) Visual acuity—	3553				
Fair ... ..	...	283	47.48	214	40.53
Bad ... ..	...	34	5.70	50	9.17
Recommended for refraction ... ..	...	30	5.03	42	8.00

EXAMINATIONS.

CHILDREN IN EACH AGE-GROUP SUFFERING FROM PARTICULAR DEFECTS:—

SECOND AGE GROUP				THIRD AGE GROUP				FOURTH AGE GROUP				ALL AGES			
Boys 628		Girls 582		Boys 560		Girls 538		Boys 55		Girls 57		Boys 2146		Girls 2003	
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
...	...	3	0.51	...	...	1	0.19	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	0.25
1	0.16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	...	...
1	0.16	...	...	...	...	2	0.37	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	3	0.15
4	0.64	32	5.49	1	0.17	21	3.90	...	...	...	...	15	0.69	78	3.89
4	0.64	1	0.17	2	0.35	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	0.51	3	0.15
...	...	...	...	1	0.17	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	...	...
2	0.32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	...	...
2	0.32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	...	...
4	0.64	5	0.85	5	0.87	2	0.37	...	...	...	...	10	0.46	11	0.55
...	...	1	0.17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	...	...
...	...	1	0.17	...	...	1	0.19	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.10
9	1.43	8	1.36	6	1.05	3	0.55	...	...	1	1.75	33	1.53	24	1.19
57	9.07	52	8.94	18	3.16	34	6.32	...	...	1	1.75	133	6.19	153	7.64
...	...	1	0.17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05
14	2.22	7	1.19	3	0.52	9	1.67	1	1.81	2	3.50	24	1.12	19	0.95
4	0.64	6	1.02	4	0.70	1	0.19	...	...	...	...	50	2.33	22	1.10
3	0.47	4	0.68	...	...	3	0.55	...	...	...	...	38	1.77	41	2.05
3	0.47	1	0.17	1	0.17	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	0.46	1	0.05
27	4.29	31	5.33	8	1.40	17	3.16	...	...	1	1.75	148	6.94	174	8.69
6	0.95	7	1.19	5	0.87	8	1.48	...	...	1	1.75	50	2.33	60	3.00
6	0.95	2	0.34	2	0.35	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	1.12	9	0.45
...
3	0.47	4	0.68	1	0.17	3	0.55	...	...	1	1.75	10	0.46	12	0.60
1	0.16	1	0.17	...	...	1	0.19	...	...	...	...	1	0.55	3	0.15
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	1	0.05
9	1.43	6	1.02	...	...	1	0.19	...	...	...	...	31	1.63	29	1.45
1	0.16	1	0.17	...	...	2	0.37	...	...	...	...	3	0.14	6	0.30
104	16.56	102	17.53	54	9.49	77	14.31	3	5.45	7	12.28	444	20.68	400	23.45
6	0.95	20	3.44	13	2.28	15	2.79	3	5.45	3	5.26	56	2.60	88	5.16
19	3.02	15	2.58	4	0.70	20	3.72	1	1.81	2	3.51	54	2.51	79	4.61

Table II.—SYSTEMATIC

RETURN OF NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUAL

NATURE OF DEFECT.	Total examined at all ages 4149	ENTRANTS			
		Boys 894		Girls 826	
		No.	%	No.	%
9. EARS :—					
(a) Diseases—					
Otorrhoea	4	0.44	4	0.48
Other Diseases	3	0.33	1	0.12
(b) Defective hearing—					
Grade I.	1	0.11	...	...
Grade II.a
Grade II.b
Grade III.
10. SPEECH :—					
Defective articulation...	6	0.67	4	0.48
Stammering	2	0.22	...	...
11. MENTAL AND NERVOUS CONDITION :—					
Backward
Dull	3	0.33	1	0.12
Mentally defective (educable)	2	0.22	...	...
Mentally defective (ineducable)
Highly nervous or unstable	3	0.33	2	0.24
Difficult in behaviour	1	0.11	1	0.12
12. CIRCULATORY SYSTEM :—					
(a) Organic heart disease—					
i. Congenital	1	0.11	2	0.24
ii. Acquired	1	0.11	...	...
(b) Functional conditions	22	2.46	20	2.42
(c) Anaemia	5	0.55	3	0.36
13. LUNGS :—					
Chronic bronchitis	5	0.55	1	0.12
Suspected tuberculosis	2	0.22	...	...
Other Diseases	23	2.57	20	2.42
14. DEFORMITIES :—					
(a) Congenital	4	0.44	4	0.48
(b) Acquired (infantile paralysis)	2	0.22	1	0.12
(c) Acquired (probably rickets)	5	0.55	...	...
(d) Acquired (other causes)	12	1.34	1	0.12
15. INFECTIOUS DISEASE	10	1.10	11	1.22
16. OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS	17	1.90	15	1.81

EXAMINATIONS (continued).

CHILDREN IN EACH AGE-GROUP SUFFERING FROM PARTICULAR DEFECTS :—

SECOND AGE GROUP				THIRD AGE GROUP				FOURTH AGE GROUP				ALL AGES			
Boys 628		Girls 582		Boys 569		Girls 538		Boys 55		Girls 57		Boys 2146		Girls 2003	
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2	0.32	3	0.51	1	0.17	4	0.74	2	3.63	...	...	9	0.41	11	0.55
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	0.14	1	0.05
2	0.32	1	0.17	...	...	4	0.74	...	...	...	...	3	0.14	5	0.25
1	0.16	1	0.17	1	0.17	4	0.74	1	1.81	...	...	3	0.14	5	0.25
...
...
2	0.32	1	0.17	2	0.35	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	0.46	5	0.25
3	0.47	2	0.34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	0.23	2	0.10
2	0.32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	...	...
1	0.16	3	0.51	5	0.87	1	0.19	...	...	...	...	9	0.41	5	0.25
5	0.79	...	...	10	1.75	4	0.74	2	3.63	...	...	19	0.88	4	0.20
...
1	0.16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0.18	2	0.10
1	0.16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	1	0.05
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	2	0.10
...	...	...	...	3	0.52	4	0.74	...	...	1	1.75	4	0.18	5	0.25
12	1.91	20	3.44	9	1.58	12	2.23	3	5.45	5	8.75	45	2.14	57	2.35
1	0.16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	0.28	3	0.15
2	0.32	1	0.17	2	0.35	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	0.41	2	0.10
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	...	...
9	1.43	4	0.68	8	1.40	5	0.93	...	...	...	...	40	1.86	29	1.45
4	0.64	1	0.17	3	0.52	2	0.37	...	...	...	...	11	0.51	7	0.35
1	0.16	1	0.17	1	0.17	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0.18	2	0.10
4	0.64	5	0.85	6	1.05	2	0.37	1	1.81	...	...	15	0.69	7	0.35
7	1.11	3	0.51	6	1.05	3	0.55	1	1.81	...	...	26	1.21	7	0.35
1	0.16	2	0.34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	0.51	13	0.65
5	0.79	11	1.89	2	0.35	10	1.86	...	...	...	...	24	1.12	36	1.80

Table III.—SYSTEMATIC

CLASSIFICATION.	ENTRANTS.		SECOND AGE-GROUP.	
	Number of Children.	Per-centage.	Number of Children.	Per-centage.
I. Children free from defects	1014	58.95	760	62.76
II. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from—				
(a) Defective vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses	4	0.22	86	7.10
or				
(b) Conditions of mouth and teeth requiring treatment	4	0.22	11	0.91
(c) Both (a) and (b) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Total	8	0.44	97	8.01
III. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II.) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks	325	18.89	126	10.41
IV. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defects less remediable than defects specified in II. or III. distinguishing cases—				
(a) Where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect, full correction) is considered possible	354	20.58	203	16.72
(b) Where improvement only is considered possible, <i>e.g.</i> without complete restoration of function ...	19	1.10	25	2.06
Total	373	21.68	228	18.78
Total number of children examined	1720	100%	1211	100%

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

THIRD AGE-GROUP.		FOURTH AGE-GROUP.		TOTAL.	
Number of Children.	Per- centage.	Number of Children.	Per- centage.	Number of Children.	Per- centage.
795	71.82	80	71.43	2649	63.83
76	7.77	8	7.14	174	4.19
9	0.81	3	2.68	27	0.65
...
85	8.58	11	9.82	201	4.84
50	5.33	6	5.35	516	12.43
148	13.37	14	12.50	719	17.32
20	1.81	1	1.12	65	1.55
168	15.18	15	13.62	784	18.87
1107	100%	112	100%	4150	100%

Table IV.

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE IN
THE AREA.

DISABILITY.	At Ordinary Schools	At Special Schools or Classes	At no School or Institution	TOTAL.
1. Blind ... ..	...	3	...	3
2. Partially sighted—				
(a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition	16	...	...	16
(b) Other conditions of the eye which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school	17	...	...	17
3. Deaf—				
Grade I.	25	...	...	25
Grade II.a	9	...	...	9
Grade II.b ... ..	...	...	...	...
Grade III. ... ..	...	11	...	11
4. Defective speech—				
(a) Defects of articulation requiring special educational measures ...	29	...	...	29
(b) Stammering requiring special educational measures	15	...	...	15
5. Mentally defective (children between 5 and 16 years)—				
(a) Educable (I.Q. approx. 50-70 " educationally subnormal ") ...	18	63	...	81
(b) Ineducable (I.Q. generally less than 50) ... ..	...	5	20	25
6. Epilepsy—				
(a) Mild and occasional	17	...	...	17
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school) ... ..	...	...	...	...
7. Physically defective (Children between 5 and 16 years)—				
(a) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands)	3	...	...	3
(b) General orthopædic conditions ...	132	4	8	144
(c) Organic heart disease	68	...	3	71
(d) Other causes of ill-health :—	51	2	2	55
i. Asthma	12	...	1	13
ii. Brouchiectasis	13	1	...	14
iii. Pulmonary Tuberculosis (or under observation) ...	13	...	1	14
iv. Diabetes Mellitus or Insipidus	6	1	...	7
v. Coeliac disease	1	...	...	1

Table IV. (continued).

DISABILITY.	At Ordinary Schools.	At Special Schools or Classes.	At no School or Institution.	TOTAL.
vi. General debility	1	...	...	1
vii. Congenital neuro-syphills ...	1	...	...	1
viii. Other conditions	4	...	...	4
8. Multiple Defects—				
(a) Defective articulation—Deaf Grade IIA	2	...	...	2
(b) Defective articulation — Epilepsy (mild)	1	...	...	1
(c) Deaf Grade IIA.—Mental Defective (Educable)	1	...	...	1
(d) Congenital heart disease—Synovi- tis knee	1	...	...	1
(e) Hemiplegia — Educable mental defective	2	1	2	5
(f) Goitre ; Pes planus	1	...	...	1
(g) Hemiplegia ; Deaf Grade I. ...	1	...	...	1
(h) Spastic paresis ; Partially sighted	1	..	...	1

Table V.

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS AT SCHOOL MEDICAL
INSPECTION.

BOYS

	AGE GROUPS			
	Entrants	2nd	3rd	4th
Number measured... ..	595	307	419	45
Average age (in years) ...	5 $\frac{4}{12}$	9 $\frac{6}{12}$	13 $\frac{9}{12}$	16 $\frac{6}{12}$
Average height (in inches)	43.0	52.2	59.7	68.5
Number weighed	671	334	463	45
Average age (in years) ...	5 $\frac{5}{12}$	9 $\frac{6}{12}$	13 $\frac{6}{12}$	16 $\frac{6}{12}$
Average weight (in lbs.) ...	42.8	64.2	95.9	140.7

GIRLS

	AGE GROUPS			
	Entrants	2nd	3rd	4th
Number measured... ..	587	292	350	46
Average age (in years) ...	5 $\frac{4}{12}$	9 $\frac{6}{12}$	13 $\frac{6}{12}$	16 $\frac{6}{12}$
Average height (in inches)	43.0	51.9	60.3	64.2
Number weighed	656	328	379	46
Average age (in years) ...	5 $\frac{4}{12}$	9 $\frac{6}{12}$	13 $\frac{6}{12}$	16 $\frac{6}{12}$
Average weight (in lbs.) ...	41.7	62.9	99.0	122.9

6. Medical Treatment.

A. MINOR AILMENTS.

1. Cuts, bruises, sprains and minor injuries, etc. ...	1205
2. Diseases of the ear	260
3. Diseases of the eye, excluding defective vision	75
4. Diseases of the skin—	
Ringworm (scalp)	4
X-ray treatment	—
Other treatment	4
Ringworm (body)	7
Scabies	19
Impetigo	347
Other diseases	541

The increase in numbers this year is due to the functioning of additional minor ailment clinics in the county area.

B. DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

1. Number of retinoscopies performed by school medical officers	420
2. Number of children referred to consulting ophthalmologist	98
3. Number of spectacles provided through the school health department	340

Squints are treated by provision of glasses, by total or intermittent occlusion and by operation.

C. NOSE AND THROAT (operative treatment) 454

D. ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

Figures not available.

7. School Dental Service.

STAFF.

During the school year the dental staff was increased to the probable number required to undertake all dental inspection and treatment amongst school children. The staff at the end of the year consisted of one chief dental officer, three dental officers and four dental attendants.

PREMISES

The mobile dental clinic was commissioned again for use in the smaller schools where suitable facilities are lacking. Semi-permanent dental equipment was obtained for the larger schools where a suitable room is available for use as a surgery.

It was noted that, where the conditions for treatment were poor, the number of those accepting treatment was low.

INSPECTION.

It will be seen from the following statistics that 10,487 children were routinely inspected in the schools. Of this number, 6,633 required dental treatment—63.2%. Of these, 3,358 or 50.6% accepted treatment.

TREATMENT.

Of the children whose parents accepted treatment, 3,237 attended for treatment and 121 failed to keep their appointments.

The number of attendances by these children for treatment was 4,969, an average of 1.53 visits per patient. 3,447 permanent teeth were filled and 650 were unsalvageable and were extracted. 997 temporary teeth were filled and 3,041 were extracted.

SESSIONS.

129 half-days or sessions were devoted to inspection. The average number of attendances at each session was eighty-one. 895 sessions were treatment sessions averaging eleven patients. 189 sessions were spent on clerical work, attendances during school holidays and on Saturdays for emergency treatment and special cases.

				Systematic examina- tions	Special cases	Total
1.	Number of children inspected					
	Age 4 years	...	...	25	1	26
	5 "	...	...	1260	4	1264
	6 "	...	...	1196	1	1197
	7 "	...	...	1087	4	1091
	8 "	...	...	1135	3	1138
	9 "	...	...	1157	7	1164
	10 "	...	...	1225	3	1228
	11 "	...	...	1081	4	1085
	12 "	...	...	593	...	593
	13 "	...	...	581	...	581
	14 "	...	...	579	2	581
	15 "	...	...	328	1	329
	16 "	...	...	129	...	129
	17 "	...	...	96	1	97
	18 "	...	...	15	...	15
	Total	...	...	10487	31	10518
2.	Requiring treatment			6633	31	6664
2a.	Accepting treatment			3358	31	3389
3.	Number of children treated			3237	31	3268
4.	Attendances made for treat- ment			4969	39	5008
5.	Fillings :—					
	(a) Permanent teeth	...	...	3447	5	3452
	(b) Temporary teeth	...	...	997	2	999
6.	Extractions :—					
	(a) Permanent teeth	...	...	650	11	661
	(b) Temporary teeth	...	...	3041	17	3058
7.	Other operations :—					
	(a) Permanent teeth	...	...	608	12	620
	(b) Temporary teeth	...	...	74	3	77
8.	Half-days devoted to :—					
	Inspection	...	...	129	}	1212
	Treatment	...	...	895		
	Office work	...	...	188		
9.	Number of children refusing treatment			...	...	3119
10.	Number of forms not returned			...	...	190
11.	Orthodontic appliances			...	...	3
12.	Partial dentures			...	...	7
13.	Number of children known to have been treated under private arrange- ment			...	...	38

8. Special Schools and Classes.

(a) PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

Where the defect is of a minor character the children attend the ordinary school or, if indicated, one of the special classes. Transport is provided if necessary.

Where the defect is more serious, special provision has to be made. If possible, home tuition is arranged for those unable to attend school. Four children are in residence at the East Park Home for Infirm Children, Glasgow, and two at the Trefoil Residential School for Physically Handicapped Children.

(b) BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

Partially sighted children are educated in the ordinary class, but three children, whose defect is severe, are at the Royal Blind Asylum, Edinburgh.

(c) DEAF CHILDREN.

Children who only have slight difficulty in hearing are educated in the ordinary class but are given a favourable position in the class. Four children are in residence at the Donaldson School for the Deaf in Edinburgh, five at the Glasgow School for the Deaf, one at the Mary Hare Grammar School, Newbury, Berks, and one at the St. Vincent's School for the Deaf and Dumb.

(d) MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

There are sixty-three children attending special classes as follows :—

S c h o o l				Boys	Girls
Catherinefield	...	...	...	12	13
Lockerbie	...	...	...	13	4
Annan	...	...	...	12	9

An occupation centre is in operation at Dumfries for children who are ineducable but trainable. There are twelve children on the roll.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

County Health Offices,
County Buildings,
Dumfries.

To

The Department of Health for Scotland.
The County Council of Dumfries.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the work done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the year ended 31st December, 1953. The report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Health for Scotland.

In all branches of the Department's work the year under review has been a very busy one and the duties accomplished could not have been done had it not been for the wholehearted co-operation of every member of my staff, to whom I wish to express my appreciation for the services rendered by them.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE WILSON,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING.

As in previous years the first part of my report deals with housing, as the local authority has become a large-scale builder of houses.

Although much has still to be accomplished before satisfactory accommodation can be provided for persons without houses and for those living in unsatisfactory houses, it is gratifying to see the number of new houses which have been erected both by the local authority and by private enterprise.

It also gives great satisfaction to see the number of privately-owned dwellings which have been improved and provided with modern facilities.

The total number of houses erected and occupied for the first time in 1953 was 367, comprising 302 houses erected by the Council plus 2 houses erected by the Council for employees, 3 houses erected by a Government Department, 20 houses erected by the Scottish Special Housing Association and 40 houses erected by private persons.

The distribution of these houses, with their size and type, is shown in the following tables :

Table No. 1.
HOUSES ERECTED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Type of House	Situation	No. of Houses of				
		2 apts.	3 apts.	4 apts.	5 apts.	
Permanent Traditional	Beattock	6	...	112
	Holywood	2	4	6	6	
	Kingholm Quay ...	...	8	12	...
	Kirkconnel	4	8	30	6	
	Newbie ... ..	...	4	2	...
	Penpont ... ..	...	...	2	...
	Thornhill ... ..	...	...	8	4
Permanent Traditional (Agricultural Population).	Bankend	2	...	34
	Cample ... ..	...	...	4	...
	Cummertrees ... ..	...	...	4	...
	Dirrops ... ..	...	...	2	...
	Kelhead ... ..	...	...	4	...
	Midtown ... ..	...	...	2	...
	Moniaive ... ..	...	...	4	...
	Parkgate ... ..	...	...	4	...
	Powfoot ... ..	...	...	2	...
	Ruthwell ... ..	...	...	4	...
Non-Tra- ditional) Weir Brick	Eastriggs	28	30	...	136
	Locharbriggs ... ..	...	34	44	...
	Parkgate ... ..	...	...	20	...
Non-Tra- ditional (Weir Timber).						20
	Total					302

Table No. 2.
OTHER HOUSES ERECTED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Type of House	Situation	No. of Houses of				
		2 apts.	3 apts.	4 apts.	5 apts.	
Permanent Traditional	Kirkconnel (S.D. Works) ... ..	...	...	2	...	
	Total	...	...	...	...	2

Table No. 3.

HOUSES ERECTED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND
OCCUPIED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1953.

Department	Type of House	Situation	No. of Houses of				
			2 apts.	3 apts.	4 apts.	5 apts.	
Department of Agriculture	Permanent Traditional	Ruthwell Parish ...	...	...	...	3	...
		Total ...					3

Table No. 4.

HOUSES ERECTED BY THE SCOTTISH SPECIAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION
AND OCCUPIED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1953.

Type of House	Situation	No. of Houses of				
		2 apts.	3 apts.	4 apts.	5 apts.	
Non-Tra- ditional (Cruden)	Kirkconnel ...	...	20	...		
	Total					20

Table No. 5.

HOUSES ERECTED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND OCCUPIED FOR
THE FIRST TIME IN 1953.

Type of House	Situation	No. of Houses of					
		2 apts.	3 apts.	4 apts.	5 apts.	6 apts.	
Permanent- Traditional	Annan Parish	...	...	...	1	...	
	Cloosburn "	...	1	1	1	...	
	Dumfries "	...	...	2	4	...	
	Dunscore "	...	...	...	1	...	
	Middlebie "	...	1	...	...	...
	Morton "	...	...	2	2	...	
	Tinwald "	...	...	1	...	...
	Total						17

Table No. 6.

HOUSES ERECTED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE WITH ASSISTANCE UNDER THE HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACTS 1950 AND 1952, AND OCCUPIED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1953.

Type of House	Situation	No. of Houses of				
		2 apts.	3 apts.	4 apts.	5 apts.	6 apts.
Permanent- Traditional	Caerlaverock Parish	...	2	1	...	...
	Canonbie „	...	...	1	...	...
	Closeburn „	...	...	3	...	...
	Dunscore „	...	...	1	...	...
	Hoddorn „	...	2	...	...	...
	Keir „	...	...	1	...	...
	Kirkmahoo „	...	...	1	...	...
	Lochmaben „	...	...	1	1	...
	Middlebie „	...	...	1	...	...
	Torthorwald „	...	...	1	...	...
	Total ...					16

Table No. 7.

HOUSES ERECTED WITH ASSISTANCE UNDER THE HILL FARMING ACT, 1946, AND LIVESTOCK REARING ACT, 1951, AND OCCUPIED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1953.

Type of House	Situation	No. of Houses of				
		2 apts.	3 apts.	4 apts.	5 apts.	6 apts.
Permanent Traditional	Closeburn Parish	...	...	1	...	...
	Dunscoro „	...	...	1	...	...
	Gleneairn „	...	...	2	...	...
	Langholm „	...	...	...	...	1
	Tynron „	...	...	1	...	...
	Westerkirk „	...	...	1	...	...
	Total ...					7

The figures given below show some aspects of the work carried out under the Housing Acts during the year, particularly as regards unsatisfactory dwellings :

Number of houses surveyed	...	...	...	...	12
Number of houses re-surveyed	...	...	...	...	36
Number of Official Representations made	...	...	...	...	24
Number of Demolition Orders served	...	...	...	...	22
Number of Closing Orders served	...	...	...	...	7
Number of Undertakings accepted	...	...	...	...	5

THE HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACTS, 1950 AND 1952.

(a) NEW HOUSES FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

Proposals for the erection of 13 new houses for agricultural workers were approved and grants promised by the Council in terms of Section 3 of the 1952 Act during the year.

Sixteen new houses were completed and grants paid during the year.

(b) IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING DWELLINGS.

Proposals for the improvement of 139 existing dwelling-houses were approved and grants promised during 1953, a marked increase from previous years attributable for the most part to the extension of the scope of the improvements sections of the Acts to include agricultural "tied" houses.

Improvement works at 35 dwellings were completed and qualified for payment of grant during the year. (The post-war figures for improvements with assistance under the Acts are : 1950 - 1; 1951 - 8; 1952 - 17; 1953 - 35).

PLANS.

485 Plans were submitted for examination during the year. Reports on these were prepared and submitted to the Council for consideration.

The following table shows the type of plans dealt with :

NATURE OF PROPOSED WORK,							NUMBER
New Business Premises (excluding Shops and Factories)	...						1
Alterations to Business Premises (excluding Shops and Factories)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
New Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Alterations to Existing Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Alterations to Shop Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
New Temporary Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New Buildings at Farms (excluding Dairy Farms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Alterations to Existing Farm Buildings (excluding Dairy Farms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
New Private Garages	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
New Permanent Houses (Private Enterprise)	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
New Temporary Houses (Private Enterprise)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Temporary Houses (Government Departments)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Alterations to Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	252
New Halls and Public Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Alterations to Halls and Public Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Conversion of Premises into Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Pigsties, Kennels, Poultry Houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Total							390

In addition, all plans in respect of Council projects, including housing schemes, schools, etc., were forwarded to this Department for comment and adjustment, particularly as regards drainage arrangements.

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS, 1920-39.

No applications were received during the year from occupiers of dwelling-houses for certificates under the above Acts.

THE PROVISION OF SANITARY FACILITIES.

The following summarised statements show the progress made in the years 1950 to 1953 as regards the installation of sanitary fittings and the provision of water supplies in existing houses.

Drainage and Sanitary Fittings.

Dwelling-houses	1950	1951	1952	1953	Total
Number provided with new or improved drainage					
... ..	161	149	159	210	679
No. provided with W.C.s	161	124	157	211	653
No. provided with Baths	154	114	137	176	581
No. provided with Wash-hand Basins	148	101	132	180	561
No. provided with Sinks	120	99	96	130	445
No. provided with Wash-tubs	111	95	112	130	448
No. provided with Wash Boilers	76	85	88	104	353

Water Supplies.

Dwelling houses	1950	1951	1952	1953	Total
To fittings within the house from Local Authority Supplies	86	70	76	99	331
To outside standpipes from Local Authority Supplies	17	14	10	14	55
To fittings within the house from Private Supplies	21	19	14	9	63
Total	124	103	100	122	449

During the year improvements were carried out to 9 public buildings. These improvements consisted of the laying of new or the modernising of existing drainage, and the provision of the following sanitary conveniences :—11 water closets, 9 wash-hand basins and 4 urinals.

DRAINAGE.

All new drainage work was inspected and tested, 1226 tests being applied to drains and plumbers' pipes during the year.

27 drainage plans were prepared for the guidance of architects and contractors.

41 applications for permission to connect to the Council's sewers were passed to the Department for report.

WATER SUPPLIES.

140 samples of water were procured from public and private water supplies and submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination during the year. Of these, 89 samples were taken from the various local authority supplies. The remaining 51

samples were taken from existing private water supply systems and from proposed new sources of supply. In the case of samples from private supplies, the catchment areas were surveyed and the storage arrangements and piping examined so that the risk of pollution might be precluded. 10 complaints of unsatisfactory water supplies were received, 7 of which were satisfactorily dealt with. The remaining 3 are being attended to.

107 applications for permission to connect to the Council's water main pipes were reported on during the year. In this connection, the features to which this Department pays special regard are the provision of drainage and the efficiency of the fittings which are to be supplied.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Inspections under the Council's bye-laws were made of tents, vans and sheds used for human habitation. Included in these categories were caravans on permanent sites, huts at saw-mills and week-end, etc., huts at or near the shore. In no case was it found necessary to take formal action against the occupier, any unsatisfactory conditions being rectified after interview.

Altogether, 6 visits were paid in connection with these premises.

SEASONAL WORKERS.

Six inspections were made of premises at which seasonal workers were accommodated. The standard of the accommodation afforded these workers, although greatly improved in recent years, is still capable of being further improved and, to this end representations continue to be made to the employer and to the farmer providing the accommodation.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937-48.

The total number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 17 non-mechanical, 131 mechanical and 18 other premises in which Section 7 of the principal Act is enforced by the Local Authority.

Plans were dealt with for 3 new factories and in respect of alterations to 5 existing factories.

2 notifications from H.M. Inspector of Factories of contraventions of the Act, as regards the lack or unsatisfactory nature of sanitary accommodation at factories, were received during the year. In these cases the premises were visited and the persons responsible advised as to the necessary remedial work. In both cases the unsatisfactory conditions were remedied.

63 visits were paid to factories during the year.

The dwellings occupied by 2 outworkers were inspected in 1953 and found satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION AND UNSOUND FOOD.

In the County (excluding the Burgh of Dumfries) during the year 167,170 animals were slaughtered, of which 2,544 were cattle, 107,075 were sheep, 52,336 were pigs and 5,215 were calves.

The following tables show the various classes of animals slaughtered and the number of carcasses wholly or partially condemned on account of disease and/or injury, also imported meat and offal found on examination to be unfit for human consumption:—

SITUATION OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSE :—THORNHILL PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

TABLE NO. 1.
(FRESH MEAT).

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	765	20	7	8,635	4,071
Sheep ...	3,778	56	13	1,509	599
Pigs ...	489	12	5	1,528	238
Calves ...	1,238	17	...	723	201
Totals ...	6,270	105	25	12,395	5,109

IMPORTED MEAT.

Type	Carcase Meat, etc.	Condemned		Weight of Meat in lbs. Condemned
		Wholly	Partially	
Cattle (parts of)	592	1	...	129
Sheep Carcases ...	3,591	1	...	50
Pig Carcases ...	...	...	...	...
Tinned Meat ...	...	...	...	...
Packages Offal ...	...	...	...	...
Tinned Ham ...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	4,183	2	...	179

SITUATION OF SLAUGHTERHOUSE :—THORNHILL BACON FACTORY.

TABLE NO. 2.

FRESH MEAT.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheep ...	...	...	...	...	...
Pigs ...	51,025	30	115	6,318	32,760
Calves ...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	51,025	30	115	6,318	32,760

IMPORTED MEAT.

Type	Carcase Meat, etc.	Condemned		Weight of Meat in lbs. Condemned
		Wholly	Partially	
Cattle (parts of)...	195	...	1	108
Sheep Carcases ...	217	...	...	...
Pigs Carcases	...	...	...	...
Tinned Meat ...	99	99	...	359 $\frac{5}{16}$
Packages Offal	...	...	...	...
Tinned Ham ...	6	6	...	59 $\frac{3}{4}$
Totals ...	517	105	1	526 $\frac{9}{16}$

SITUATION OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSE :—RACKS.

TABLE NO. 3.

FRESH MEAT.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheep ...	29,479	...	...	...	1,286
Pigs ...	...	...	...	...	...
Calves ...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	29,479	...	...	...	1,286

SITUATION OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSE :—DORNOCKTOWN, EASTRIGGS.

TABLE NO. 4.

FRESH MEAT.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheep ...	22,646	4	1	136	2,786
Pigs ...	...	...	...	...	...
Calves ...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	22,646	4	1	136	2,786

SITUATION OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSE :—ANNAN.

TABLE NO. 5.

FRESH MEAT.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	915	24	18	11,005	16,458
Sheep ...	4,197	74	6	3,096	2,831
Pigs ...	468	9	13	1,389	318
Calves ...	549	46	...	2,352	329
Totals ...	6,129	153	37	17,842	19,936

IMPORTED MEAT.

Type	Carcase Meat, etc.	Condemned		Weight of Meat in lbs. Condemned
		Wholly	Partially	
Cattle (parts of)...	459	...	...	...
Sheep Carcases ...	4,271	...	...	...
Pig Carcases ...	1	...	...	...
Tinned Meat ...	...	...	...	...
Packages Offal ...	134	...	...	...
Tinned Ham ...	...	...	...	...
Totals	4,865	...	...	...

SITUATION OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSE :—LOCKERBIE.

TABLE NO. 6.
FRESH MEAT.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	864	42	16	19,579	16,549
Sheep ...	46,975	137	119	5,956	3,284
Pigs ...	354	8	10	1,030	575
Calves ...	3,428	57	10	2,942	201
Totals ...	51,621	244	155	29,507	20,609

IMPORTED MEAT.

Type	Carcase Meat etc.	Condemned		Weight of Meat in lbs. Condemned
		Wholly	Partially	
Cattle (parts of)...	360	...	...	...
Sheep Carcases ...	2,710	...	...	...
Pig Carcases ...	...	...	...	...
Tinned Meat ...	...	...	...	...
Packages Offal ...	47	...	...	...
Tinned Ham ...	...	...	...	...
Totals	3,117	...	...	...

Summarising the aforementioned tables, it will be noted that the total amount of fresh meat condemned was 66,198 lbs., and of fresh offal 82,486 lbs., while the amount of imported meat condemned was 287 lbs. plus $418\frac{9}{16}$ lbs. of imported tinned meat. It will be noted therefrom that the weight of fresh and imported meat and offal condemned was $149,389\frac{9}{16}$ lbs. or 66 tons 13 cwts 6 sts. 9 lbs. 9 ozs.

In the course of routine inspection, or on request, the following foodstuffs, as shown on table 7, were examined in wholesale and retail premises in the landward part of the County and seized with the consent of the vendors.

TABLE NO. 7.

Nature of Foodstuff								Lbs.	Ozs.
Canned	Meats	...	...	...	...	...	...	113	$3\frac{1}{2}$
„	Soups	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	$4\frac{1}{2}$
„	Jams and Preserves	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	...
„	Beans	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	10
„	Peas	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	$9\frac{1}{2}$
„	Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	$5\frac{1}{2}$
„	Carrots and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
„	Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	$11\frac{3}{4}$
„	Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	211	$4\frac{1}{2}$
„	Salads	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
„	Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
„	Coffee	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
„	Fruit Juices	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Pickles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	10
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...
Sheep pluck	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
„ Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Turkeys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	12
Total								580	$7\frac{1}{4}$

The total weight of all foodstuffs condemned as unfit for food during 1953 was 66 tons 19 cwts. 2 lbs.

The number of visits made in connection with the inspection of meat and other foodstuffs was 1,437.

MEAT STORES.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland), 1932.

No certificate in respect of storage accommodation, in terms of Article 15(1) of the above Regulations, was granted by the local authority during 1953.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Slaughter-houses.—In the County (excluding the Burghs) there are four slaughter-houses, one owned by the local authority, the others privately owned. Of the three privately owned, two are concerned wholly in the slaughter of sheep, principally for the London market, and the other with the slaughter of pigs. The one belonging to the local authority is in use for general purposes.

When visited, these premises were found to be maintained in a satisfactory state of cleanliness. As regards structure, although all of these slaughter-houses are not of modern construction, satisfactory progress is being made in the way of alterations and improvements to bring them into line, as far as possible, with present-day requirements.

Other Offensive Trade Premises.—At the end of 1953 there were four firms carrying on one or more of the businesses defined in the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, as “Offensive Trades.”

These businesses are listed below :—

Blood Boilers	1	Knackers	1
Bone Boilers	1	Tripe Cleaners	1
Tallow Melters	3	Manure Manufacturers	1
Skinner and Hide Factors ...	1		

Total	9
--------------	-----	-----	---

The conduct of these premises, for the most part, was satisfactory and no nuisance was caused nor was any complaint lodged.

Minor structural improvements continue to be pressed for and the improvement of drainage systems with particular reference to the production of a satisfactory effluent.

VERMINOUS PERSONS AND HOUSES.

Visits to the accommodation occupied by persons selected for the tenancy of Local Authority houses continue to be made so that steps can be taken to preclude the transference of infested furniture and furnishings. Local Authority houses being re-let for a second or subsequent time were likewise examined. In all, 547 such inspections of houses and household effects were carried out. In instances where the selected tenants resided outwith this local

authority area, the necessary inspections of their housing conditions were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors of the areas in which these persons were resident.

As a consequence of the aforementioned visits and following complaints, 8 houses were found to be infested with insect pests. These infestations were treated by the Department with satisfactory results. In 3 of the houses the infestation was by bedbugs.

DIRTY HOUSES.

Two complaints were received necessitating eleven visits to houses not being kept in a clean condition during the year. It was not found necessary to take statutory action against the occupiers of such houses, improvement of the conditions being effected following the visits of the Sanitary Inspector.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year 15 complaints of rat infestation were received, 11 from the landward part of the County, 1 from the Burgh of Sanquhar, 2 from the Burgh of Moffat and 1 from the Burgh of Langholm.

The complaints were investigated and the owners or occupiers, where evidence of rats was confirmed, were instructed in the best method of exterminating the pests.

In a number of cases the services of the rat-catcher employed by the County Council were obtained.

The action taken in each case appears to have been effective and no further complaints were received.

NUISANCES.

In the normal course of inspection, and following complaints, 159 nuisances were dealt with during the year.

The following table shows the nature of the nuisances and the progress made in having these abated :

Complaint	Number Reported	Number Abated
(a) Lack of sanitary conveniences	5	5
(b) Choked and defective drains and defective sanitary conveniences	29	24
(c) Inadequate and unsatisfactory water supplies	10	7
(d) Structural and other defects of houses, in- cluding dampness	63	28
(e) Overcrowding	10	7
(f) Offensive smells	2	2
(g) Accumulations of refuse	10	7
(h) Infestation by pests	14	11
(i) Pollution of streams and ditches	8	5
(j) Dirty houses	2	2
(k) Others	6	6
Total	159	104

277 Visits were made in connection with the investigation and abatement of nuisances.

In no case was it found necessary to proceed beyond the issue of intimations to the authors of the nuisances.

It will be seen that a large number of nuisances were due to structural and other defects in dwelling-houses. These were of such a nature that abatement was not practicable; the only solution would be for the occupier to be re-housed and the houses closed or demolished.

When the Local Authority rehouse the occupiers of these houses, statutory action under the Housing Acts is taken.

THE ICE CREAM (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS, 1948.

The following summary shows the number of registrations granted, cancelled, etc., in 1953 :—

	Premises	Vehicles
Registrations in force at 31st December, 1952 ...	38	15
Registrations granted during 1953	6	2
Registrations cancelled during 1953	3	1
Registrations in force at 31st December, 1953 ...	41	16

Ninety-one visits were paid to ice cream premises during the year by way of routine inspections in connection with new apparatus, etc.

Fifty-one samples of ice cream were procured for bacteriological analysis during the year. Thirty-four of these proved satisfactory on analysis and the remainder unsatisfactory on account of the presence of coliform organisms and/or high bacterial count.

In the case of unsatisfactory samples, inspections were carried out of premises, equipment, stores, etc., so as to eliminate faults of manufacture, sterilisation and handling.

Good results were obtained following these inspections.

SMALL BURGHS.

BURGH OF ANNAN.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 94 (45 males, 49 females), of which 6 were illegitimate.

During the year 67 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 58 (26 males, 32 females). The chief causes of death were : Heart Disease, 18 Cancer, 10 ; Apoplexy, 9. Three children died during the first year of life.

Infectious Diseases.—Forty notifications of infectious disease were received—28 of Scarlet Fever, 4 of Whooping Cough, 3 of Pneumonia, 3 of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 of Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

The following report has been prepared from information supplied by Mr James Rodger, Sanitary Inspector of the Burgh of Annan :—

Water Supply.—No major works were carried out on the water supply system during the year. The installation of the new clear water tanks gives an uninterrupted supply to all districts of the town.

Samples of the water supply were secured each quarter and submitted to bacteriological and chemical examination. The results were wholly satisfactory.

Drainage.—The work of forming an intercepting sewer and a purification plant continues and will be completed in the spring of 1954.

Housing.—The number of houses completed by the Town Council during 1953 is as follows :—

3-apartment houses	...	...	52
4-apartment houses	...	...	30

There were also under construction a further 30 houses and negotiations are proceeding for the erection of another 100 houses, of which 40 will come under the management of the Scottish Special Housing Association.

Five houses were completed during the year by private builders, and six houses were re-constructed with the aid of grants.

Offensive Trades.—The skin works and shrimp picking factories were conducted in a satisfactory manner.

Slaughter-house.—The Slaughter-house is owned by the Town Council and operated by the Ministry of Food.

Unsound Food.—The following foodstuffs were seized and destroyed :—

50 tins cooked meat	26 tins vegetables
13 tins soup	15 tins milk
528 tins preserved fruit	

Scavenging.—Household refuse is collected twice weekly and refuse from shops on four days each week. A new cleansing vehicle of 12 cubic yard capacity was purchased and put into service during the year.

The number of loads of refuse collected was as follows :—

Household refuse	...	...	...	...	1070
Special loads	...	...	...	...	111
Waste paper	...	...	...	...	27

Disposal of refuse is by controlled tipping at a disused quarry outwith the town.

Schools.—The three schools in the town were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Factories and Workshops.—No action was required in regard to factories and workshops in the Burgh.

Smoke Abatement.—Action was taken in five cases to lessen the nuisance caused by the emission of black smoke. In two cases adjustments were made to the boilers, and in other two advice was given as to proper methods of stoking and the use of smokeless fuel. In the fifth case the business was closed down.

BURGH OF LOCKERBIE.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 47 (25 males, 22 females), of which 1 was illegitimate.

During the year 31 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 39 (16 males, 23 females). The principal causes of death were: Heart Disease, 9; Apoplexy, 8; Cancer, 6. One child died during the first year of life.

Infectious Diseases.—Twenty-five notifications of infectious disease were received—Scarlet Fever, 18; Whooping Cough, 4; Pneumonia, 2; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 1.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

The following report has been prepared from information supplied by Mr C. M'Phail, Sanitary Inspector of the Burgh of Lockerbie:—

Water Supply.—Consequent to a report of an inspection of the reservoir carried out under the provisions of the Reservoir (Safety Provisions) Act, 1930, the Council's consulting engineers submitted proposals for rectifying the defects at an estimated cost of £35,000. In view of the high cost involved, the Council approached the County Council to investigate the possibilities of Lockerbie Burgh being supplied from the proposed Black Esk scheme. These consultations showed that the Black Esk scheme would not be in operation in the Lockerbie district for several years, and after further consultations between the Council, Department of Health officials and the Council's consulting engineers it was agreed that the minimum of remedial measures be carried out at an estimated cost of £12,000. Plans and contract documents are now being prepared by the consulting engineers.

One of the service tanks at the filter beds was found to be leaking very badly, and the Council's consulting engineers, after making a thorough inspection, recommended that the only satisfactory course would be to remove the roof and to build what would be, in effect, a new tank inside the existing. This would entail the laying of a new reinforced concrete floor 7 ins. thick, the construction of new 9 ins. reinforced concrete walls all round the inside of the present tank, the construction of a new reinforced concrete roof, the building of a new valve chamber and renewing the interconnecting piping between the tank and the filters. This work has just been completed at an estimated cost of £5,000, and the tank will be put into service after cleaning, filling and testing.

A waste water inspection was carried out by inspectors from Edinburgh Corporation Water Department during April and they located 22 underground leakages and 127 defective fittings. The saving of water which was effected after these defects had been repaired was approximately 16,000 gallons per day.

Several fairly long lengths of Burgh water mains are being used to supply consumers outside the Burgh boundary, and in view of the fact that these are all old mains which may be the cause of future leakages, the County Council have been asked, where practicable, to take over the supply to consumers outside the Burgh so that the Burgh mains may be cut and sealed as near the Burgh boundaries as possible.

The supply was well maintained throughout the year, and regular analyses by the Medical Officer of Health indicate the water to be suitable in all respects for domestic use.

Drainage.—The drainage and sewerage system satisfactorily carried out its function without giving cause for complaints. Routine work of dragging and scouring was carried out, and all new connections were inspected and tested.

Sewage Purification.—Routine work of cleaning and de-sludging was carried out regularly.

A tentative agreement has been reached with the County Council by which the County Council will accept the sludge from the sewage works, after reconstruction, for composting. Plans and contract documents are now being prepared by the Consulting Engineers.

Cleansing.—Household and trade refuse is collected twice weekly and, during the summer months, special collections of garden refuse take place every month. Collection is by means of a cleansing motor vehicle of ten cubic yards capacity. Disposal is by controlled tipping on a low marshy site about a mile outside the Burgh boundary. The tip is kept in good order and has not given cause for any complaints.

Slaughter-house.—The slaughter-house, which is under the control of the Town Council, was inspected regularly and was always found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Plans and specifications are being prepared for the erection of a new brick-built fat-cooling house.

Unsound Food.—With the consent of the owner, a total of 292 lbs. of unsound food of various kinds was seized and destroyed.

Nuisances.—Fourteen nuisances were investigated and remedied on verbal instructions to the authors.

Factories.—There are 36 factories in the Burgh, 34 mechanical and 2 non-mechanical. Five minor complaints were rectified on verbal notification.

Offensive Trades.—There are no offensive trades carried on within the Burgh.

Schools.—There is only one school within the Burgh (Lockerbie Academy) and sanitary arrangements are of modern construction and are always kept in a clean and tidy condition.

Burial Grounds.—No interments took place during the year at the old cemetery within the Burgh; all interments were carried out at Dryfesdale Cemetery, which is adjacent to the Burgh and is administered by the County Council.

Housing.—There are 68 applicants on the waiting list for Council houses, and during the year 16 houses for general needs and four 2-apartment houses for old people were completed and occupied. Tenders were accepted for a further allocation of 24 houses and building, which commenced in July, is proceeding satisfactorily.

BURGH OF LANGHOLM.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 15 (9 males, 6 females), of which 1 was illegitimate.

During the year 17 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 35 (13 males, 22 females). The chief causes of death were : Heart Disease, 14 : Apoplexy, 10 : and Cancer, 4. There were no deaths of children under the age of one year.

Infectious Diseases.—Seventy-six notifications of infectious disease were received : Whooping Cough, 28 ; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 3 ; Malaria, 1 ; Dysentery, 44. The outbreak of dysentery occurred towards the end of the year and, despite extensive investigation, the source could not be traced.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

The following report has been prepared from information supplied by Mr R. Currie, Sanitary Inspector of the Burgh of Langholm :—

Water Supply.—The gravitational intake and distribution systems both functioned satisfactorily throughout the year, the only troubles experienced being of a seasonal nature, when the supply from the springs reaching the cistern was just sufficient to cope with the day-to-day consumption within the Burgh.

Quarterly analyses of the water indicate that it is suitable for domestic use.

Drainage.—The sewage disposal works and drainage system have continued to operate satisfactorily and have been regularly maintained.

All connections to main sewers and private drainage works were inspected before being put into use.

The disposal works were sludged periodically and the effluent discharged into the river Esk has not given rise to complaint.

Cleansing.—The collection of refuse is, as in former years, collected three times weekly by motor vehicle of 7 cubic yards capacity and disposed of at High Mill Tip situated outwith the Burgh. The tip is regularly attended to and rats are kept down by frequently gassing and baiting with poison.

Waste paper is collected once per week and the market for this is slowly showing signs of returning.

The routine of street cleansing continues to be carried out satisfactorily.

Housing.—The remaining four 4-apartment houses at Holmwood were completed and occupied, thus completing the scheme of 72 houses.

Factories.—There are 33 factories in the Burgh—6 non-mechanical and 27 mechanical. One case of uncleanness was dealt with.

Seven certificates as to means of escape in case of fire were granted in accordance with Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937.

Nuisances.—Complaints regarding nuisances were investigated and general inspections carried out; these were remedied on verbal intimation to the authors.

Offensive Trades.—There is only one offensive trade—a skin works—which, on inspection, was found to be kept in a satisfactory state of cleanliness.

Unsound Food.—Condemnation of food was on a very small scale and consisted mainly of eanned foods. Altogether, an assortment of foodstuffs weighing $63\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. was seized and destroyed with the consent of the owner.

Burial Grounds.—No interments took place in the burial grounds within the burgh.

Schools.—Langholm Aeademy, including the infant's school, is the only school within the Burgh, and the sanitary arrangements are kept in a clean and tidy condition.

In the case of Lochmaben, Moffat and Sanquhar where there is no resident Sanitary Inspector, the duties are earried out by members of the County Sanitary Staff. The following reports on these Burghs have been prepared by Mr George Wilson, Chief County Sanitary Inspector.

BURGH OF LOCHMABEN.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, eorrected for tranfers, was 22 (10 males, 12 females). There was one illegitimate birth.

13 marriages were registered.

Deaths, eorrected for residence, numbered 22, (12 males, 10 females). The priniepal eause of death was Cancer—5 cases. No children died during the first year of life.

Infectious Diseases.—Seventeen notifieations of infectious disease were received : 13 of Whooping Cough : 2 of Scarlet Fever ; 1 of Pneumonia and 1 of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

HOUSING.

New Houses.—Twenty-four municipal houses were completed and occupied for the first time in 1953. These were traditional type houses and comprised twenty houses of three and four apartments plus four houses for old people.

One private enterprise house was completed and occupied for the first time in 1953. This was of traditional construction.

Housing (Scotland) Acts, 1950 and 1952.

Improvements to Houses.—Improvement works at five dwelling-houses were completed during the year and grants paid under the Housing (Scotland) Acts, 1950 and 1952.

Proposals for the improvement of four houses were approved during the year and grants promised.

Provision of Sanitary Facilities.

(1) No. of dwellings provided with new drainage systems	...	3
(2) No. of dwellings at which the drainage system was improved to modern standards	... ..	2
(3) No. of dwellings provided with w.c.s within the house	...	3
(4) No. of dwellings provided with baths within the house	...	5
(5) No. of dwellings provided with wash-hand basins within the house	... ..	5
(6) No. of dwellings provided with new or improved scullery accommodation	... ..	4

Plans.—Ten plans were submitted during the year. Reports on these were prepared and submitted to the Council.

The plans concerned the following works :—

(1) Erection of new houses by private persons	...	1
(2) Alterations and additions to existing houses	...	4
(3) Alterations and additions to business premises	...	4
(4) New private garages	... ..	1
Total	... ..	10

Minor Warrants.—17 warrants were granted for minor works during the year. For the most part these were concerned with the erection of garden sheds, greenhouses and similar structures.

75 visits were paid to properties in connection with plans and minor warrants.

Drainage.—Eighty-six tests were applied to drains and plumbers' pipes during the year.

Water Supply.—Quarterly samples of water were taken from the Burgh water supply and submitted for chemical and bacteriological analysis. These were found to be satisfactory.

Factories Acts.—There were on the register four mechanical and eight non-mechanical factories, all small establishments.

No complaint as regards these premises was received during the year.

Unsound Food.—Only one item of foodstuffs was seized from retail shops during the year. This was Cooked Ham weighing 12 lbs. 15 ozs.

Complaints.—Fifteen visits were paid to houses in connection with defective drains, structural defects and insect infestations. In no case was it found necessary to take statutory action. In the case of infestations by insects, disinfection was successfully carried out.

General.—Routine visits were made to the sewage disposal works, the water works and the refuse tip during the year.

BURGH OF MOFFAT.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 21 (6 males, 15 females), of which one was illegitimate.

14 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 35 (16 males, 19 females). The principal causes of death were: Heart Disease, 14, and Cancer, 5. One child died during the first year of life.

Infectious Diseases.—Eleven notifications of infectious disease were received: Scarlet Fever, 9; Infantile Paralysis, 1; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 1.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

Housing.—Twenty-two local authority houses were erected and occupied for the first time in 1953. These are traditional terrace-type houses—twenty of four apartments and two of five apartments.

The families rehoused were living in overcrowded or insanitary conditions or were sub-tenants. Visits were made to their houses and the Town Council was advised of any action considered necessary under the Housing Acts. Five of these dwellings were closed as unfit for human habitation.

In no case was any evidence of insect infestation found which might be transferred to the new houses.

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACTS, 1950 and 1952.

In no case was advantage taken by owners of dwelling-houses of the grants available under the Acts to assist them to undertake improvements to bring properties, where suitable, up to modern standards.

Plans.—The undernoted plans submitted to the Dean of Guild Court were examined and reports made for the Court's guidance when considering the proposals.

Alterations to dwelling houses	...	...	...	2
Alterations to business premises	...	...	...	1
New business premises	...	...	...	1
New private garages	...	...	...	2
				<hr/>
Total ...	...	...	...	6
				<hr/>

Drainage.—Seventy tests were made of new drainage and plumber-work primarily at the Holm Road Housing Schemes. A layout plan of the drainage for the Third Development Scheme was prepared for the guidance of the architects.

Water Supply.—The town is supplied with spring water from a covered collecting tank at Granton. The supply is extended to a number of properties outwith the Burgh including several in Beattoek area. Samples procured quarterly showed the water to be of good quality. A survey was carried out by Edinburgh Corporation Water Inspectors during the year, and leaks located on mains, service pipes and fittings were repaired on the respective owners being notified.

Sewage Disposal.—The drainage system has functioned satisfactorily during the year. The sewage works are well maintained and no complaints of nuisance being created have been received.

Cleansing.—House and trade refuse is collected regularly by a covered motor vehicle and conveyed to a tip outside the Burgh where a system of controlled tipping is adopted.

Complaints.—Ten visits were made in connection with complaints, primarily concerning disrepair of dwelling-houses and choked drains. Representation was made, where appropriate, to the owners concerned, and in no case was statutory action necessary. Four visits were made to dwellings which were not being maintained in a satisfactory state of cleanliness.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.—The Ladyknowe Park was regularly visited when occupied by travelling shows. The letting of the park for use by tinkers was discontinued as the site was not suitable for this purpose owing to the lack of proper lavatory facilities.

Factories Acts.—No complaints were received during the year regarding premises which come under the category of factories under the Acts. Twelve inspections were made during the year.

Routine visits were made to the water works, sewage works and refuse disposal tip.

Unsound Food.—Foodstuffs amounting to 94 lbs. $6\frac{1}{2}$ ozs., were seized with the consent of the owners from retail shops in the Burgh during the year as being unfit for human consumption. Particulars of the items condemned are given below :—

Tinned Meats	...	...	14 lbs.	12 ozs.
Tinned Soups	...	...	23 lbs.	0 ozs.
Tinned Fruit	...	...	15 lbs.	$12\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.
Tinned Beans	...	...	2 lbs.	0 ozs.
Tinned Milk ...	...	...	7 lbs.	11 ozs.
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	1 lb.	3 ozs.
Raisins	...	...	30 lbs.	0 ozs.

Total	94 lbs.	$6\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.
--------------	-----	-----	---------	---------------------

BURGH OF SANQUHAR.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 46 (19 males, 27 females), of which two were illegitimate.

Twenty-five marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 17 (9 males, 8 females). The principal causes of death were : Apoplexy, 5 ; Heart Disease, 4 ; Cancer, 3. No child died during the first year of life.

Infectious Diseases.—Fifty-five notifications were received—Whooping Cough, 40 ; Scarlet Fever, 7 ; Erysipelas, 3 ; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 3 ; Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 1 ; Infantile Paralysis, 1.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

Housing.—The total number of new houses erected and occupied during the year was thirty-six, consisting of 20 non-traditional (Miller and Atholl) and 16 traditional.

Forty-one visits were made to dwellings occupied by persons selected for tenancy of new houses and the Council advised as to any statutory action considered desirable under the Housing Acts.

Plans.—During the year seventeen plans were submitted, and reports on same were prepared and submitted to the Dean of Guild Court of the Council for consideration.

The following table gives particulars of the proposed work shown on the plans :—

New Permanent Houses (Non-traditional—Local					
Authority) ... ..	...	...	...	...	1
Alterations and Improvements to Dwelling-houses					4
Extensions to existing Factories			...	...	2
Alterations to Business Premises (Office)				...	1
Erection of Petrol Pump Shelter (Public Garage)					1
New Private Garages			...	...	3
New Greenhouses		...	...	...	4
Garden Shed	...	...	...	...	1
Total					17

In connection with the aforementioned plans, fifty-seven visits were made.

Drainage.—One hundred and seventeen inspections and tests were carried out to drainage and plumber work in connection with new housing and alterations to existing houses and business premises during the year.

Water Supply.—Four routine samples of the Burgh water supply were collected for chemical and bacteriological analysis which showed the water to be of good quality. Three visits were made to the reservoir and water works in the course of the year.

In connection with an experiment being made in Kilmarnock to determine the action of fluoride on the teeth of children, the Council were asked by the Department of Health to allow samples

of the town's water supply to be submitted to the Government Chemist for analysis. The samples were procured and submitted, but so far no results of the experiment are known.

Cleansing.—As in former years, household and garden refuse is collected by arrangement with the County Council, and there have been no complaints.

Factories Acts.—There are in the Burgh thirteen mechanical and two non-mechanical factories. During the year six inspections of factories were made.

Following intimation from H.M. Inspector of Factories of a defective sanitary convenience in one of the factories, the defect was remedied after two visits.

General.—Following complaint from several householders in the Deer Park area of rat infestation, the nuisance was abated by partial rat-proofing of the dwellings and obtaining the services of the County Council rat-catcher.

Nuisances.—During the year twenty-four visits were made in connection with complaints. These complaints were investigated and consisted principally of structural defects, defective drains, and houses not being kept in a satisfactory state of cleanliness. It was not found necessary to take statutory action in connection with any of the complaints, the remedial measures being carried out after the visit of the Sanitary Inspector.

Unsound Food.—In the course of routine inspection or on request, quantities of foodstuffs were examined, and the following were seized as unfit for human consumption :—

Description				Weight	
Canned Ham	...	...	14 lbs.	2	ozs.
Canned Meat	...	...	4 lbs.	0	ozs.
Total ...				18 lbs.	2 ozs.